

**Books for Al Gore to read in bed**  
Lesbian and gay leaders suggest a reading list on our issues for the Vice President.

page 21

**AIDS PACgate**  
Only 7% of funds raised went to the candidates.

page 16



**Noir Velvet**  
David Lynch's film 'Lost Highways' opens.  
see Arts section



# BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 9 • 27 February 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years

## Atlanta bomb targets lesbians FBI and ATF mobilize

by Southern Voice staff  
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The possibility of a serial bomber who has turned to attacking gays and lesbians sent terror through the Atlanta community after the Friday, February 21 bombing of The Otherside Lounge, prompting Mayor Bill Campbell to order increased police presence in areas of gay and lesbian establishments.

"We have already ordered additional police protection for gay and lesbian bars and establishments," Campbell said Sunday after meeting with the Mayor's Senior Advisors to the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgendered Community. However, Campbell failed to outline specific measures.

Friday's bombing injured five, closed the Otherside indefinitely, and caused concern throughout the community.

Federal law enforcement officials, who were gathering evidence as late as Monday, stopped short of linking the latest attack

with the January 16 double bombing of an Atlanta area abortion clinic and the July bombing of Centennial Park during the Olympics, but they have said distinct similarities exist. They confirmed Saturday, February 22 they would be considering a variety of culprits, including the possibility of a serial bomber.

The bomb in Centennial Park killed two and injured 111. On January 16, a bomb ripped through a Sandy Springs, Georgia abortion clinic, and a second bomb exploded a short while later, injuring seven.

### Five reported injuries

Five people were reported injured at The Otherside, one serious enough to require surgery.

After the bomb exploded at about 9:50 p.m. Friday night, a second bomb was discovered a short while later outside in a parking lot and was eventually detonated by police with no additional injuries.

In all three Atlanta bombing incidents,

page 20 ►



The Otherside owners Beverly McMahon and Dana Ford talk to the press.

## 'Army of God' threatens more gay bombings

United Press International

The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports news organizations have received at least four copies of a letter claiming responsibility for the weekend bombing of a lesbian nightclub, and for the bombing of an abortion clinic last month.

FBI spokesman Jay Spadafore said Tuesday, February 25 the letters, which are full of misspellings, are being evaluated to determine if they actually came from an anti-abortion group called "The Army Of God."

A handwritten three-page letter to the Atlanta Constitution, postmarked in Atlanta on Saturday and bearing a false return address, said the Otherside Lounge was bombed because it is a "sodomite bar." The letter writer

page 20 ►



Four federal investigators comb the area around The Otherside for evidence fragments.

## Oklahomaphobe's bill dies

by Dennis Conkin

A measure to forbid the State of Oklahoma from doing business with any company or other vendor that "recognizes, supports, encourages, promotes, tolerates or otherwise allows" same-gender marriage, or domestic partnerships, died in a state House committee Thursday, February 20.

The proposed measure by Oklahoma Representative Dan Webb would have "presumptively considered" that a business contracting with the State of Oklahoma had violated the law if it provided health insurance benefits to unmarried and same-sex couples.

San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal, who alerted the local press to the proposed legislation, called it "discriminatory and mean-spirited" and said it only strengthened lesbian and gay activists' resolve.

"It's just mean and ugly and I got a sick feeling in the pit of my stomach when I heard about it," Leal said. "I was prepared to take steps to start a national boycott of the state."

"I wasn't so worried about travel to Oklahoma ... because who the hell wants to go there?"

Leal cautioned that Webb's measure would not be an isolated effort among anti-

gay right-wing politicians.

"It makes Colorado's Amendment 2 look like small potatoes," she said.

The Colorado legislation was eventually ruled unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court, and a national trade and economic boycott of the state was called off.

"It's the opening salvo of aggressive and hostile forces who are retaliating against the introduction of domestic partners legislation," agreed openly lesbian California State Assemblywoman Carole Migden.

"It's clearly not based on any sound business practice. It's retaliation," Migden said.

Migden also said that she would support a boycott against the state of Oklahoma if such legislation were ever enacted.

"Frankly, it's not a central vacation spot for us," she laughed.

### Unequal opposite reaction

The Oklahoma measure is the reverse of San Francisco legislation that requires contractors to comply with local non-discrimination ordinances, and to provide benefits to workers' domestic partners if they provide benefits to spouses.

Companies that do not provide the legis-

page 13 ►



Judge Deborah A. Batts

## First lesbian federal judge to speak at UC Berkeley

by Cynthia Laird

Judge Deborah A. Batts, the first publicly acknowledged gay or lesbian on the federal bench, and an African-American, will be the keynote speaker at a forum being held at the University of California's Boalt Hall School of Law in Berkeley on Friday, February 28.

The event, entitled "Expanding the Definition of Civil Rights: Can the *Romer v. Evans* Decision be a Catalyst for Linking Gay Rights to Civil Rights?" is free and open to the public, said Stacey Gray, one of the event organizers. There will also be a panel discussion on race and sexual orientation in the law.

Batts is a judge for the Second Circuit, Southern District of New York. Joining her at the forum will be Jon W. Davidson, a supervising attorney for the LAMBDA Legal Defense and Education Fund. Davidson worked on the *Romer v. Evans* case that overturned Colorado's Amendment 2 last year.

The forum is co-sponsored by the Boalt Hall Law Students of African Descent and the Boalt Hall Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Caucus. ▼

The forum begins at 12:30 p.m. at Booth Auditorium, Boalt Hall School of Law on the UC campus at the corner of Piedmont and Bancroft streets in Berkeley.

### INSIDE

ACT UP	29
BAR Talk	52
Bazaar	48
Classifieds	31
Mailstrom	7
MEDIA!ert!	13
Obituaries	28
Open Forum	6
Our Man Friday	9
Out & About	50
Personals	54
Queer Science	11
Sapphistication	10
Sports Complex	30

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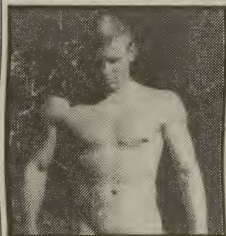


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# Suspects in felony pit bull attack face ten years in prison

by Dennis Conkin

Three men accused of a savage December pit bull attack on two gay men at Church and Market streets were bound over to San Francisco Superior Court for trial on felony assault and hate crime charges at the conclusion of a preliminary hearing on Thursday, February 20.

Judge Philip Orr ordered Randolph Rodrigues and Eltro Nelson, both 27, and Justo Rivera, 26, to appear in Superior Court on March 6 to schedule a felony trial date on the charges. The men face ten years in state prison if convicted on all counts.

Orr, a visiting Mendocino County jurist, took the case after Municipal Court Judge Donna Little removed herself at the request of attorney Robert Dunlap.

Although Dunlap had expressed concern that Little would be biased because of the nature of the case, the apparent legal strategy backfired.

After listening to hours of testimony from one of two victims and several witnesses in the case, Orr not only ordered the defendants to stand trial, he refused to refuse to lower their bail or re-

move the hate crime allegations.

At one point in his remarks, the jurist referred to the trio as "yo-yos."

Hernandez and Nelson were held on \$150,000 bail and Rivera is held on \$100,000 bail.

The *Bay Area Reporter* has withheld the names of the two victims and material witnesses for their protection in the hate crime case.

During the preliminary hearing testimony, one of the two victims testified that the although the alleged attack lasted less than ten minutes, "it felt like an eternity" and he thought that he was going to die.

"All I could think of is that this guy is going to kill me because he had his pit bull attached to my arm and he was beating me around the head and chest as hard as he could," the man said.

The victim said that the December 16 attack began after one of the suspects knocked over his 1983 Honda 650 motorcycle, which was parked on Church Street in front of St. Francis Lutheran Church, where he was attending a meeting.

After attacking the motorcycle, the suspects allegedly singled out a bystander from the crowd to attack — at which point the motorcycle owner intervened.

"He was shouting, 'Please help me,'" the victim recalled. "I was gay-bashed sixteen years ago and no one would help me, either. 'I jumped in to save him.'"

The man testified that he was severely bitten and beaten when he pulled an unidentified juvenile



Randolph Rodrigues

female woman from the group.

A witness at the hearing testified that she pulled the first victim to safety as the motorcycle owner entered the fray and the group's attention was diverted, and took the victim into Just Desserts on Church Street, where he was given first aid.

"I grabbed ahold of him, and I pulled him out and ran," she said.

Community United Against Violence client services advocate Jennifer Rakowski said that although the preliminary hearing date had been postponed for several weeks, and the trial is not expected to start until April, the case is "on a relatively fast track."

"All of the witnesses are very committed to seeing the case through," she said.

The case is being prosecuted by Deputy District Attorney Maria Bee. Deputy Public Defender Alison Bernstein and private attorneys Robert Dunlap and Alfredo Vea represent the defendants. ▼

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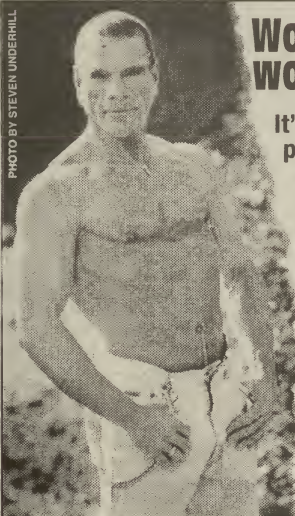
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## Clarification, correction:

Last week's front-page story about the Imperial Court of San Francisco brought forth a flood of letters questioning a couple of dates. For the record, as pointed out in the letters, Mr. Marcus was crowned in 1972, not 1962. The error was of a typographical nature, not a reporting error, so we apologize to readers and the writer. As for the headline's assertion that the Court "turns 25," we of course meant the unified Imperial Court; as the article explained, the title of Empress goes back seven years earlier and the first Emperor — Norton — took the title in 1859.

The letters, while occasionally nastier than necessary, show how dear the Court remains in the hearts of gay San Francisco. We apologize unreservedly for any copodyskinesia we may have generated among its fans. ▼

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# 'Boys Night Out' film to premiere at NTFAP benefit tonight!

Star Trek's Wil Wheaton to be on hand

by Cynthia Laird

Howard Hesseman (remember him from *WKRP in Cincinnati*?) stars with actor Wil Wheaton (*Star Trek: Next Generation*) in the film *Boys Night Out*, which will be specially presented by the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention tonight (Thursday, February 27) in San Francisco. Wheaton is scheduled to be at the movie's Bay Area premiere and a reception to benefit NTFAP and AMASSI, Inc. in Oakland.

The movie by Yule Caise, who was born and raised in Berkeley, is described as "a short multi-ethnic fairy tale about one man's journey from crass homophobe to enlightenment and understanding of the AIDS crisis."

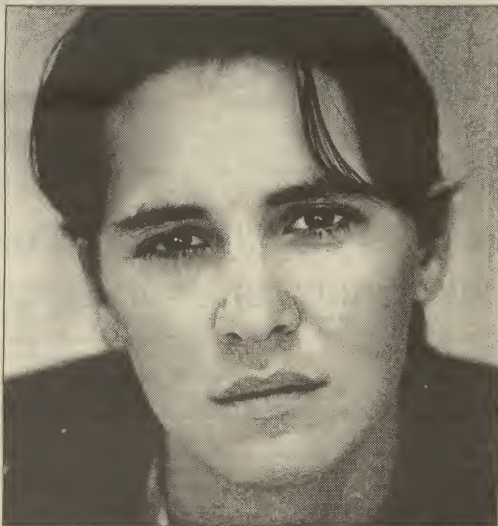
NTFAP's staff member Jose Cuellar said the event is being held both to celebrate Black History Month and to keep NTFAP's "Recreating Our Future" campaign in public view.

The ambitious campaign seeks to end the AIDS pandemic by the year 2002. Components include fundraising, integrating new research into community-based programs, conducting leadership training, social marketing, and promoting public health policies that ensure gay and bisexual men of color are included as a target population for HIV prevention.

In addition to starting the campaign in January, NTFAP also provides treatment advocacy, client care, outreach, volunteer programs, and prevention education services through several local programs, including Proyecto ContraSIDA Por Vida, Native Americans AIDS Project, and the Brothers Network.

AMASSI, founded in 1989, provides HIV/AIDS prevention education, housing, and supportive services. It primarily targets African-American men who love men.

Caise worked as a child actor and studied at the American Conservatory Theatre. He starred in the PBS series *Up and Coming*.



Wil Wheaton (above) stars in the Yule Caise film about AIDS.

Caise graduated from Harvard, where he wrote and directed the award-winning film *Shoes*.

In 1989, Robert Townsend moved Caise to Los Angeles, and they have worked together periodically ever since. Caise has directed numerous music videos and produced the music video TV shows *Pump It Up!* (Fox) and *Night Tracks* (TBS).

Caise's most recent project, an independent film *Liar's Dice*, features him as director and star. A screenplay, *Caesar and Nero*, is currently in development.

The Chef Association of the Pacific Coast will provide food for the reception. Several other companies are also sponsoring the event, including Skyy Vodka, the Gap, *Oblivion* magazine, and the AMC Kabuki 8 Theater. ▼

The reception is at 1865 Post Street (next to AMC Kabuki 8 Theater), at 6 p.m. The movie is at 8 p.m. at the Kabuki. Tickets are \$20 for the

reception and movie, or \$8 for the film only, and are available at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Street or at the NTFAP office, 973 Market Street, Suite 600. For more information, call (415) 356-8127.

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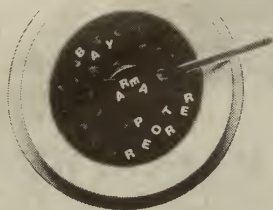
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## Patrician pals



**E**mperor Jacques Michaels and Empress Veronda Lanai meet their public after their coronation at the Gift Center Pavilion Feb. 22. The two are the latest additions to the long line of Imperial Court royalty that celebrated its silver jubilee this year. For more on the majestic festivities, see Bazaar on p. 48.

## NCLR exec. director to speak at GLOBE 'gay family values' meeting in Hayward

by Cynthia Laird

A "gay family values" meeting featuring Kate Kendell, executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), will be held in Hayward tonight (Thursday, February 27). Gays and Lesbians Organized for Betterment and Equality (GLOBE) is hosting the meeting, which will be preceded by a potluck and board elections.

Kendell will talk about recent developments around same-sex

marriage, custody, and adoption issues.

NCLR, based in San Francisco, is a public interest law firm that provides no-fee legal services and law reform litigation for men and women who have experienced sexual orientation discrimination.

The meeting is open to all interested individuals. It is co-sponsored by the National Organization for Women (NOW) and the Fremont and Hayward chapters of P-FLAG, said Kevin Dowling, GLOBE president.

NCLR has been active, but un-

successful, in two high-profile child custody cases. The first, in Virginia, involved lesbian mother Sharon Bottoms. She lost custody of her son to her mother, the boy's grandmother, after a bitter court battle.

In the Florida case of Mary Ward, her husband was awarded custody despite the fact he had been convicted of murdering his first wife.

### GLOBE elections

Concerning election of GLOBE officers, Dowling said he's stepping down as president after serving for over two years.

"I know GLOBE co-founder Pryor Conrad would be so proud of us," Dowling said in a message to members. Conrad died July 30, 1995 of complications from AIDS.

There are vacancies for two at-large members. Proposed officers for the year include Mary Lavelle and Charlene Shores, co-presidents; Dowling, treasurer; Frank Howell, secretary; Denise Howell, finance chair; Eugene Marangoni, social activities; and Corrina Fernandez, at-large member.

An amendment to GLOBE's by-laws must also be approved to accommodate co-presidents instead of a president and vice president.

GLOBE has also reported progress in working with several public schools in southern Alameda County, Dowling said. In Hayward, two high schools have held staff trainings on the topic of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth. Trainings at the other two high schools is planned for later this year.

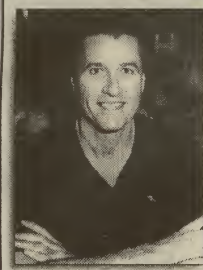
Hayward schools are also encouraging staff to display "safe place" posters with contact information for Lambda Youth Group.

Other school districts are developing staff training programs, including San Lorenzo and the California State University, Hayward teacher program.

In a significant development, Newark and Irvington (Fremont) high schools have started a gay-straight alliance group to confront homophobia on campus, Dowling said. ▽

**GLOBE's potluck starts at 6:30 p.m., with the family values meeting beginning at 7:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 27287 Patrick Avenue in Hayward. For more information, call Kevin Dowling at (510) 264-0340 or Charlene Shores at (510) 538-9722.**

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Teachers in CUAV controversy suspended, not decertified

by Dennis Conkin

Two San Francisco elementary school teachers will receive ten-day suspensions as part of a negotiated settlement of a situation involving gay and lesbian speakers from Community United Against Violence addressing their sixth grade class in 1992.

As part of the settlement, last week the state Commission on Teacher Credentialing withdrew a recommendation that the teachers be dismissed.

One of the teachers, Martha Squaglia-Castell, has retired. The other, Ed Buckley, is on a year-long sabbatical and says he expects that he will lose ten days' pay over the brouhaha.

"I'm happy this is over with and that I have a chance to tell my side of the story, and I want to get

on with my life. And I will continue to have lesbian and gay speakers in my classrooms," Buckley said.

"I am angry," he added. "My professionalism has been impugned, and people are saying, in essence, that I'm a lousy teacher. I'm not a lousy teacher."

## Age-appropriate education

The complaint against the teachers was filed by Bruce Budnick, father of a then-11-year-old girl attending a family life education class.

Budnick claimed that his daughter and two friends told him the speaker had spent the better portion of an hour describing personal and graphic sex acts, according to Kelli Evans, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union.

"At one point during the class,

a student asked the speakers how gay people have sex. The speakers, accustomed to receiving sex-related questions, responded in a brief, clinical, and age-appropriate manner," Evans said in a prepared statement.

The CUAV speaker was responding to a question from a girl who asked what a dildo was.

The credentialing commission ruled that the teachers had "failed to monitor the speakers' remarks, or intervene when they were too sexually graphic."

The incident quickly took on political overtones, and Budnick enlisted the assistance of the right-wing Rutherford Institute in filing a complaint with the state.

Independent state Senator Quentin Kopp later unsuccessfully tried to introduce a bill that required parental permission for sex education. ▼

## No more pot at Healing Alternatives

by Cynthia Laird

The Healing Alternatives Foundation has announced it will end its medical marijuana program on Friday, February 28. People can call the foundation for a list of other locations throughout the Bay Area that sell marijuana for medical use.

Matthew Sharp, director of Healing Alternatives, said the decision to discontinue the medical marijuana program was a difficult one.

"Our program was petering out, and people were going to other clubs," Sharp told the B.A.R. "But we had a dedicated group of people who kept coming and who really liked us. They didn't want to

go [to other places]."

Sharp said people can continue to contact Healing Alternatives for other HIV/AIDS treatment issues. ▼

For a list of medical marijuana distribution sites or other information, call Healing Alternatives at (415) 626-4053.

## Hirsute highness

Mr. Southern California Bear Jim Parton (front) copped the International Mr. Bear '97 title Sunday night at the Gift Center Pavilion. He's backed by the other bear winners (l to r): Bear Cub Dwayne Mosco, Grizzly Bear Michael Freer and Daddy Bear Lance Lirette. For more Bear Rendezvous tidbits, see Bazaar on p. 48.



Rick Gerhardt

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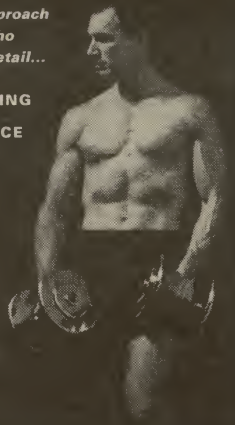
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## OPEN FORUM

## A day that will live in infamy

It's difficult to figure out which is more horrific: the explosion that ripped through the gay community last Friday night, or the relative lack of interest shown by the mainstream media and politicians.

Less than a week after a terrorist left a pipe bomb packed with nails to explode into a crowd of dancing lesbians and gay men, most news organizations have moved on to other matters, as if it no longer mattered. Instead of focusing on the terrible implications of that event, reporters are chasing after a non-story about campaign contributors spending nights in the White House Lincoln Bedroom, as if that were a big deal.

A few observations: the Republicans who insist upon talking about the overnight invitations to the White House are willing participants in a tacit cover-up of the terrorism. They are diverting the attention, either because they are blinded by Democratophobia, or because they want to gloss over the sins of their campaign contributors, or because they know their own constant anti-gay rhetoric has facilitated the attack. Even if Clinton were selling tickets to the Lincoln Bedroom – even if he were raffling off its furnishings – it would not be as newsworthy as this new declaration of civil war, and would hardly compare with the sins of previous presidents. (Richard Nixon, for instance, delivered the Lincoln Bedroom and the rest of the White House to Gerald Ford, in exchange for Ford's little contribution of keeping the felonious Nixon out of prison!)

So far, Janet Reno has said a few words about the bombing, and Clinton's spokesperson Mike McCurry has said a few – although not as many as he was able to come up with on the subject of how the Defense of Marriage Act would “strengthen the American family” a few months back – and Newt Gingrich, after prodding from his lesbian sister, denounced the violence in his backyard.

Unfortunately, the president himself has not used this opportunity to educate the country about the problem of anti-gay violence, which would be the kind of leadership that might show he is worthy of his title of Leader of the Free World. Nor has the scan-

dal-mongering press. (Except, it must be said, the gay press; special kudos to Atlanta's *Southern Voice*, a pillar of professionalism in what must be a very trying time.)

We can only hope most Americans are smart enough to figure it out without having it explained. It should be fairly obvious by now that we in the lesbian and gay community are frequent casualties of an undeclared war in this country. If people want the domestic terrorism to stop, they must make their feelings known, speak out against the hatred of Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell, and stand with us on the side of equality.

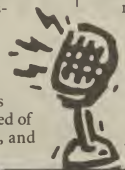
Speaking of equality, the new figures from the military show what servicemembers have been saying for some time: the “Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue” policy that was supposed to make life easier for gays in the military has had the opposite effect: the rate of gay and lesbian discharges has increased 42 per-

cent since it was enacted in 1994.

This is not news to the president. Or at least, it shouldn't be. Both Don Fowler of the Democratic National Committee and Richard Socarides, the on-again-off-again liaison to Clinton, met with the B.A.R. during the election, and in both instances we mentioned how “Don't Ask, Don't Tell” has turned into “Don't Tell,” with no recriminations for those who do ask. Fowler uncomfortably acknowledged that newsmagazines such as *U.S. News* and *World Reports* have covered the witchhunts, and that those magazines are available in Washington, DC if the Pentagon or Commander-in-Chief Clinton ever cared to read them. They know. They just don't care.

If you care, about the bombing or the expulsion of our soldiers, let Clinton know. You can send him a letter at The White House, Washington DC 20500; call him at (202) 456-1111; or e-mail him at president@whitehouse.gov.

Do it today, to make tomorrow safer. ▼



Editorial



## Are you transgender?

by Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan

In the movie *Star Trek: First Contact*, the Borg are a seemingly irresistible amalgam of technology and living tissue which operates with a single mind towards a single goal: to incorporate ever more of the universe to fuel its insatiable growth.

The concept of “transgender” is rapidly proving to be the Borg of gay liberation. Engulfing all it comes into contact with, the “transgender movement” is swallowing up whole identities – gay, lesbian, bisexual, transsexual, even straight. The queer anthem of “Honor Diversity” is being supplanted with the battle cry of “Assimilate or die!”

The 1970s and '80s were marked by apparent divisiveness, as first lesbians and then bisexuals insisted upon being acknowledged as more than just auxiliary arms of the gay movement. It is not surprising, then, that in 1975 Virginia Prince coined the term “transgenderist” to differentiate people like herself who live as the opposite sex from those of us who actually change sex.

The 1990s have witnessed a swing of the identity politics pendulum back towards all-encompassing labels. For a time in the early '90s, “queer” was everywhere. Simultaneously, “transgender” began to appear in the pages of the “queer” press, transmogrified into a catch-all term that lumped together drag queens, transsexuals, female impersonators, and straight male cross-dressers. “Transgender” was promoted as an “umbrella” term for anyone who “violated” gender “norms.” Identity politics merged with one-size-fits-all ideology, resulting in a blanket indictment of gay, straight, and ex-males with the charge of being “gender outlaws.”

Long-time transsexual activists such as

myself found it difficult to imagine what issues we had in common with straight, cross-dressing men – but no matter. In the name of unity, convenience, and political effectiveness, we were told to not only lay aside our differences, but to deny such differences existed at all.

Now it's your turn. In the December 10, 1996 *Advocate*, columnist Gabriel Rotello wrote: “I increasingly believe that I am transgendered. What's more, I believe that if you are lesbian or gay or bisexual, you are, too. And I believe that an emerging definition of all gay people as transgendered is the wave of the future.” Rotello based his belief on this rationale: “Whether we face prejudice for being too butch or too femme or for being cross-dressers or androgynes or for being perceived as gay or lesbian, we are all ultimately disliked for the same basic reason: transgressing our expected gender roles.”

Rotello's belief in the emerging transgenderism of gays and lesbians is chillingly similar to the opinions of Martine Rothblatt, the post-operative transsexual – excuse me, transgendered author of *The Apartheid of Sex*: “Since everyone has a unique sexual identity,” Rothblatt wrote in *Apartheid*, “there is actually no reality to being either, heterosexual (attracted to the opposite sex) or homosexual (attracted to the same sex). We fall in love with persons, not sexes. We are all, in fact, transgendered.” Rothblatt's logic is Borg-like in its implications: “There is also no longer a need to differentiate between men and women. ... Technology has transgendered us.”

“Resistance is futile!”

Rothblatt's and Rotello's absorption of

gay and lesbian identity in service to the transgender Borg promises the illusion of allies in a common struggle while in fact inflicting the same fate already suffered by transsexuals: the dominant, heterosexual culture dismisses our individual uniqueness – we become just another part of them.

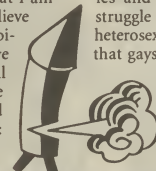
What makes the transgender movement so Borg-like is its ability to co-opt our bodies and identities, weakening our own struggle for justice even as it reinforces the heterosexual status quo. Society's insistence that gays, lesbians, and transsexuals conform to compulsory heterosexuality based upon our sex at birth has not diminished at all. The heterosexual paradigm has simply shifted in our direction, threatening to once again engulf us by rendering us indistinguishable from the majority.

If all gay people are transgendered as Rotello claims, and if male and female people – gay and straight alike – are transgendered as Rothblatt claims, then what else are any of us but interchangeable components of the dominant heterosexual culture?

Like Jean Luc Picard, who for a time was incorporated into the Borg, I know what it is to have my identity stolen. Like Picard, I know what it is to be in thrall to unity, convenience, and political effectiveness. And like Picard, I prefer our uniquely human, individual personalities, for I know that ultimately it is only our individuality which will save us from being forced to march to the beat of a single drum.

Like Picard, I know better than to believe the empty threat that “Resistance is futile!” Resist the Borg – you are not transgendered.

And neither am I. ▼



Guest Opinion



## LETTERS

## Sexphobic gay capital

The first time I traveled to Europe, my European gay friends expressed concern over the concept of a gay ghetto such as San Francisco. Remembering my own process of feeling "normal" in San Francisco for the first time in my life, I discounted their concerns. Now having lived in Germany, I understand the value of the ghetto for purposes of controlling and oppressing its inhabitants. Also, living in Holland taught me what it means to be a part of the larger culture in a way unknown to American gays and lesbians. United we stand, divided we fall. Make no mistake, in the U.S. gays and lesbians are divided and separated from the larger culture. We are expected to accept our roles as second-class citizens and be grateful when the controlling heterosexual majority throws us a few crumbs to appease us. We are victims of a political process that steals our votes, and again we are expected to be grateful that they allowed us to vote. But our real concerns are mostly considered immoral or unfit to talk about in public. Politicians can't even bring themselves to admit they accepted our support. And where does this leave us, even in places like San Francisco? Well, sometimes it leaves us in the hands of a self-righteous bureaucrat who believes she has the moral support of that larger community behind her when she ignores our rights to privacy and self-determination.

So let me give my expatriate, European, outsider view of the bathhouse controversy. First of all, let's stop calling it public sex! We are not talking about people having sex in the middle of Market Street. We are talking about private consensual sex between adults. When I was a teenager in the Midwest, I used to park with my boyfriends in the park where straight couples parked. A policeman would come by with a flashlight and shine it into the cars to make sure it was boy, girl, boy, girl. Boy, boy would get you in jail. So you see, I have no illusion like some that we are talking about public sex. No, we are talking about Homophobia. My lover and I went to the bathhouses in San Francisco in the 1980s before they were closed. We had beautiful experiences of intimacy, massage, we met new friends and felt safe. I am not ashamed of my sexuality or my choice of how to express it. It is also my personal choice to be safe, but that is my business. Living away from San Francisco has taught me that this is not really the gay capital of the world, for we are still a part of America. We cannot escape that sexphobic part of our culture that nurtures shame. I long to leave here and go back to a place where I am not always looking over my shoulder for a policeman or a fag basher or now the sex police. I hope someday San Franciscans will know this wonderful freedom too.

Robert Starkey  
San Francisco

## Passing out all over town

The "Condom Mirandas" front-page typo ("they will be passing out all over town") is the best of the year. Must we pay to watch the cute darlings pass out? More seriously, shame on the DPH and Supes: aren't AIDS activists, et al, more creative than this? Why don't the knuckleheads work with groups that routinely raise money for AIDS stuff? Why is Pride Week the only target date? Bear Rendezvous, and other events, occur regularly. Get over pointing fingers, get on with it, uh, passing out.

Thorton Kimes  
San Francisco

[Editor's note: That was no typo.]

## Changing channels

[The following was sent to Supervisors Tom Ammi-ano, Susan Leal, and Leslie Katz:]

I am gravely concerned about the changes in SF's cable channel selection proposed by TCI. I can't believe it's coincidence that the three channels that are to be done away with are among the most likely to show open and proud gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. On VH1, RuPaul has a regular show, Melissa Etheridge is very popular, and Elton John is seen quite often.

On E!, Ted Casablanca (aka Bruce Bibby) is a regular commentator, and I think I've seen Isaac Mizrahi there also. The Comedy Channel has had Sandra Bernhard as a host, and other possibly/probably queer folk have appeared regularly.

I suspect that the History Channel and House and Garden won't have nearly as many (or any?) positive portrayals of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons as the channels TCI wants to get rid of.

If there's anything you can do to encourage TCI to keep these (relatively) queer-friendly channels, possibly by increasing the total number of channels, it would be a very positive step for the city (and a healthy step for queer youth growing up here).

Philip J. Hilton  
San Francisco

## Intimacy control

[The following letter was sent to Dr. Mitch Katz, S.F. Dept. Of Public Health AIDS Office:]

As a long-time citizen of San Francisco, I am disturbed by your department's intention to institute an official policy banning private spaces in the city's gay sex establishments.

Since it is obvious the community is outraged by the unilateral decision of the AIDS Office to enforce this regulation, and since so many in the gay and HIV education communities disagree with this approach to safer sex promotion, I feel you should reconsider your position.

Attempting to control the intimate sex lives of San Francisco's gay men will only serve to make suspect any more sensible HIV education efforts your office may undertake in the future.

Please focus on education, not policing the sex of our city's gay men.

Joseph W. Bean  
San Francisco

## Bathhouse controversy, continued

[The following letter was sent to Dr. Mitch Katz, San Francisco AIDS Office:]

I am one of the many people who have sat in on a Coalition for Healthy Sex meeting, and I am also in agreement that the Baths should be allowed to be opened and operated with private rooms. I bring up the private rooms because people, such as yourself, seem to only look at this area when talking about the Baths, as this area seems to be the matter of contention when talking about the Baths reopening here in San Francisco.

With sex clubs, I personally do not find it appealing to have a flashlight shoved between my legs when I'm having sex with someone or looking up during the moment of climax and having "a monitor" staring back at me! I also don't like the idea of flopping my dick into a sink to wash up or spraying my ass with a hose that's used in a beauty salon to wash hair! I want a place where I can shower, clean up, shave and relax, just as well as having consenting sex behind closed doors.

Using the excuse of "living in a time of AIDS" to head off the Bath controversy is absurd, outdated and doesn't even have the backing of any scientific studies! As gay people, we're living in a Nazi nightmare now that we have groups of people declaring they're "watching out for our best interests," monitoring us, taking away our choices and our capability to make decisions, whether good or bad, healthy or unhealthy. Since when did we form a right-wing agenda for the gay community?

Instead of looking at the Baths in a negative light as offering nothing to the community, I feel you need to take a closer look at how much more the Baths actually do offer. I've enclosed a copied page out of *Oblivion* magazine which describes what Berkeley Steamworks and the San Jose Watergarden offer to and for their customers. There is no reason why San Francisco cannot do the same for its gay community! Currently we have too many groups (i.e. sex club owners/operators, Coalition for Healthy Sex, The AIDS Office, etc.) making too many unreliable and unpredictable decisions for themselves, for each other and definitely for the community as a whole. I would like to see some changes.

Steven D. Keller  
San Francisco

## Caenned wit

From Herb Caen's column, July 22, 1984:

"The old joke about media people interviewing each other came true during the Democratic convention.

"I did at least a dozen radio and TV shows, on most of which the interviewer, from out of town, would say hesitantly, 'What is it about San Francisco that attracts so many - you know - uh,' at which point I'd interrupt: 'Gays?'

"Yes,' would come the relieved response. 'Why do you have so many - uh - gays?'

"The only answer I was able to come up with was: 'Just lucky, I guess.'"

Robert Tat  
San Francisco

## Strange fruit

Re: Delivering One of the Eulogies at Herb Caen's Funeral: What do you do when you encounter a man with a pillowcase over his head at your father's funeral? Christopher Caen just said, "Thank you for being here, Strange." And that's why I love San Francisco.

Strange de Jim  
San Francisco

P.S. Do you have fax and/or e-mail numbers for letters to de editor?  
[Editor's note: No.]

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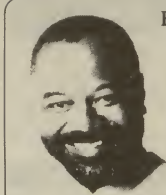
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### Criminal rhetoric, challenged intelligence

In response to "A new low" and "More slim-slinging" in issue 2/13/97:

Are Gilbert Telles and Bill Horton really concerned with the "exploitation" and "targeting of our suffering loved ones"? Apparently, their only concern is to spout criminally unintelligent rhetoric. Where are their alternative methods and suggestions? They are gravely misinformed about the medicinal qualities of marijuana. Their animosity towards David [sic] Peron, the B.A.R.'s beloved "tabloid editor," and people who choose to take control of their own health remedies is at best misguided and pubescent in behavior! Are these two men too busy to educate themselves with the facts and wake up to the fact that the voters of California have spoken? If Horton finds the B.A.R.'s articles "one-sided" and its editor "throwing temper tantrums," what is he doing reading our only exclusively gay paper in the first place? Why doesn't he pick his jellyminded ass up and read the *National Enquirer*? Judging from their letters, someone of their challenged intelligence would probably consider this a "reputable newspaper." Oh yes, (W)Hor(e)ton is much too busy with his nose buried in "tabloid" rags to know the difference between junk journalism and an editor and paper that at least support the cause in our community. Telles is much too busy with his head up Benedict Arnold's a.k.a. Joe Bannan's ass, or anyone else in uniform for that matter. Can Telles please keep his fetishes separate from the obvious deviant character of Joe Bannan? Isn't it scary there are morons like these people consuming available space? They all need to smoke some kick-ass weed, take a chill pill and CHILL OUT! Gee... ever heard of quality of life? Why not allow those who so choose to medicate themselves any way they themselves see fit?!

John Faiello  
San Francisco

### No principles

I believe that Archbishop Levada has misrepresented the issue of providing domestic partner benefits to the employees of Catholic Charities. It is not a matter of forcing the church to compromise its religious principles. It's a matter of requiring all employers to maintain minimum standards when dealing with their employees. Catholic Charities is a non-profit corporation that has paid employees. Archbishop Levada is not claiming that his religious principles are being compromised by requiring spousal benefits for employees who had an abortion, a divorce, or for the non-Catholic employees of Catholic Charities. He's trying to confuse the employer-employee relationship with an antigay agenda. It's very disturbing that he would jeopardize the viability of Leland House and endanger the most vulnerable people in our community in the process. He's using the sick and dying as pawns in his pursuit of 'religious principles.' I not only don't like this guy's interpretation of Christianity, I don't like the way he's willing to hurt people along the way to implement it.

Dan Foley  
Daly City, CA

### Identical benefits

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors has passed a resolution requiring that companies that do business with the city and county grant identical benefits to domestic partners as to married couples.

Those companies who allege they can not provide equal medical benefits for domestic partners, as they do for employees married with the blessing of a government license, overlook that domestic partners are not seeking special privileges, only the exact benefits as they are being provided to other (straight) employees. If a company can not, or does not wish to provide medical benefits for domestic partners, then all they need do is stop providing those benefits for their employees' spouses.

What company will risk the wrath of its employees by informing them that they will no longer provide medical coverage for their husbands or wives? Domestic partners are asking for what employers have been giving their other employees for years, in some instances for decades. Providing medical coverage has not put them out of business and won't put them out of business now.

What some business management fails to acknowledge is the obvious fact that if domestic partners all married, they would provide coverage for the exact same people for whom they now deny coverage. In the case of a heterosexual couple living as domestic partners, they, at least, could choose to marry under a government-issued license. In the case of same-sex domestic partners, marrying is prohibited by law. Obviously, providing medical coverage is not the issue. Providing domestic partners with the identical benefits now available to married couples will take away employers' ability to judge who their employees should live with, as well as their interfering in employees' personal decisions.

Mark H. Miller  
San Francisco

### Abused by the system

This is a letter of apology to all the clients whose anger I never fully understood in my 25 years as a public health worker. Recently I found myself on the other side of the counter. It was quite an eye-opener.

As a person with AIDS, unemployed, and without medical coverage, I went to the agencies I had been employed by for assistance. The first agency was San Francisco General Hospital.

I met with the intake counselor. I brought my California driver's license, my passport, my birth certificate, and my discharge papers from the military. She brushed these documents aside, declared them forgeries, and informed me I would need for identification purposes a social security card with my correct name and social security number, the social security number on my documents was already in use by a Mr. Farr and, no, I could not speak with a supervisor.

I thought carefully about my other options. The only facility I could think of was the VA Hospital (VAMC, Ft. Miley, San Francisco). I had worked as a nurse there for one year, and I knew the level of care given to patients with HIV, bordering on criminal neglect, but I am at the stage where medical care is required.

I was not surprised by the mediocre care supplied, but I was when the philosophy of medical care for PWAs was explained to me by a physician and then confirmed by the charge nurse of that clinic. I was told that it is VA policy that people with HIV deserve to suffer, aggressive care of a person who is HIV+ is inappropriate use of medical resources, and it is the duty of the PWA to die as quickly as possible so as not to tie up the valuable time of the medical staff. To paraphrase, the VAMC is there to help people with AIDS/HIV to die soon with as much discomfort as possible.

I do get my medications from the VAMC, but for self-preservation, keep as much distance as possible.

I was part of the system, I thought I knew the way to work within the system. I was so wrong. I, according to the city and county of San Francisco, don't exist, and have been judged by the federal government to be a parasite that needs to be eradicated. How many people who have no concept of government agencies have been abused by the system and just given up?

M. Alan Farr  
San Francisco

### Whites' special duty

I am proud to support the change of street name of Fillmore Street to Dr. Carlton Goodlett Street, from Market to the Marina, with all deliberate speed. As a native San Franciscan, I refuse to cling to the evil past, including that of President Fillmore, who signed the Fugitive Slave Act. We whites have a special duty to demand that the board of supervisors make this name change and thus demonstrate the leadership for which San Francisco likes to be known in the fight against racism and for peace and justice, all activities for which Dr. Goodlett was known around the world.

Lee Heller  
San Francisco

### 'Straight white male?'

Gavin Newsom, 29, our new unmarried supervisor, is described by our esteemed mayor, Willie Brown, as a "straight, young, white male." Newsom's business "partner" is the young, handsome, unmarried Billy Getty.

In Pat Steger's column in the *Chronicle* Monday, she wrote, "Gavin Newsom and Bill Getty have organized a black-tie Valentine's dance; Gavin and Bill will be the ones with the tans; they're just back from alohaland..." I have to wonder if they are just back from their honeymoons?

Come on, Willie, give us a break, this is San Francisco. Gavin Newsom straight?!

Richard C. Miller  
San Francisco

### Hello, Boise?

How do disk jockeys know when "Clitoris Appreciation Night" is at hand? Or National Seagull Month?

By looking in Chase's Calendar of Events, the Bible of annual festivities, protests, and such. Every major queer event, and even smaller ones, could be listed, if the organizers bothered to do so.

Does your club or business sponsor an annual event? May 8th is the deadline for next year's edition (1998). You can find the listing form, "How To Submit an Entry," in the '97 edition. Or request the form from: Calendar Editor, Chase's Calendar of Events, NTC/Contemporary, 4255 W. Tuohy Ave., Lincolnwood IL 60466-1975. There's no charge for listing.

Get ready for those 5 a.m. phone calls from Idaho...

Tortuga Bi Liberty  
Berkeley, CA

[Editor's note: The disk jockeys we know have never needed a special event to appreciate any sexual organ.]



## POLITICS

# Never-say-die Dornan

by Wayne Friday

Just when most of us thought we had heard the last from Orange County's infamous former (?) Congressman **Robert Dornan**, it appears the hateful "B-1 Bob" still has not given up trying to regain the 46th District House seat he lost in a nail-biter last November to Democrat **Loretta Sanchez**. In fact, the House Contested Election Task Force was scheduled to take up Dornan's charges of "illegal voting" this week, and don't be too surprised if the GOP-controlled group finds some way to hand the seat back to the noted homophobic or, at the very least, orders a new election in that Orange County district.

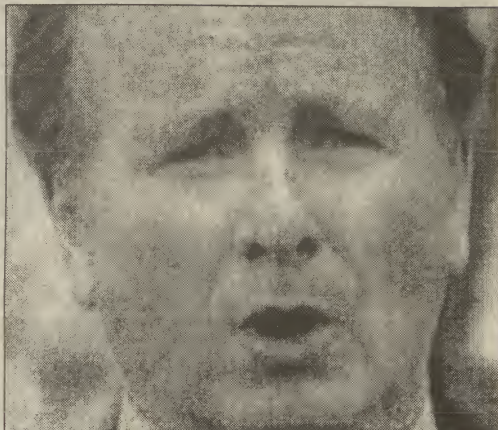
While Orange County officials (themselves Republicans) have long ago confirmed Sanchez's win by the razor-thin margin of 984 votes and the California Secretary of State has also validated the Sanchez victory, Dornan has convinced his Washington cronies to examine his loss. It seems the Republican District Attorney's office in Orange County has "discovered" that at least 227 "non-citizens" managed to register in that district — suggesting, of course, that they not only voted (which has yet to be proven) but that they all voted for Sanchez.

Hoping against hope that there were at least 758 more "illegals" who registered to vote (and who all voted for Sanchez), the Dornan loyalists are trying to persuade the task force to order a new election. Impossible? Well, with the **Newt Gingrich** clones in charge of the House these days, anything could happen.

After all, the last time such a case occurred, back in 1984 when the Democrats controlled the House, Republican challenger **Richard McIntyre** appeared to have narrowly won Indiana's 8th District, but a Democratic investigative task force went to bat for Demo House member **Frank McCloskey** and eventually handed the victory to him. In Washington, political turnaround is still fair play, and though many Republicans see Dornan as little more than an embarrassing loose cannon, he is still their loose cannon.

However, some Republicans are feeling uneasy about the symbolism of throwing out a Latina woman, particularly in a GOP district largely populated by Latino and Asian immigrants (who are legally registered). My guess is that after all the protesting by Dornan and friends, Ms. Sanchez will remain in the House, but watch for her 46th District seat to become a major battleground in next year's off-year House election race.

Orange County Republicans are already pushing hard for family law attorney **Lisa Hughes**, an OC resident who is currently chair of the California Lottery Commission. Hughes is close to Orange County state Senator **John Lewis** and GOP Assembly Leader **Curt Pringle**. She has the ability to raise big bucks and has already hired two campaign consultants. Regardless of the outcome of the House's investigation this week, expect Republicans in the once-safe GOP district to give



Sore loser of all time: Bob "I wuz robbed" Dornan.

the nod to someone (read: anyone) besides the unpopular Dornan in '98.

One more thing: California Republicans met in Sacramento last weekend. One of the things on their quiet agenda was how to win over some of the growing Hispanic vote in the Golden State. One suggestion might

be to back off Loretta!

## Politics and people

San Francisco voters will pass judgment on four bond issues in the June 3 election: 1) a \$140 million school bond measure; 2) a \$100 million bond measure for the city's proposed new 49er football stadium; 3) a \$49 million bond measure for the new cultural center facility; and 4) a \$48 million zoo improvement measure.

Don't look for Senator **Dianne Feinstein** to endorse incumbent GOP LA Mayor **Richard Riordan** (despite his endorsement of her over Republican **Michael Huffington** in '94), though Feinstein and the mayor are friends. DiFi did, however, last week endorse incumbent LA City Attorney **Jim Hahn** over his challenger.

West Hollywood's openly gay Councilman (and former mayor) **John Heilman** has been appointed as vice-chair of the powerful Human Development Policy Committee of the National League of Cities.

When Vice President **Al Gore** and House Minority Leader **Richard Gephardt** both addressed last week's annual AFL-CIO meeting in Tijuana, many saw it as the opening salvo in the 2000 Demo presidential race between two men who don't particularly care for each other.

Lame-duck Governor **Pete Wilson** used his speech to the Sacramento Republicans to push **Dan Lungren** for governor. He also urged his party to "get rid of **Bill Clinton**'s chief apologist, **Barbara Boxer**."

*Sacramento Bee* political columnist **Dan Walters**, one of the state's most influential scribes, told readers last week that many in the capital feel that new Assembly Rules Committee Chair **Don Perata**, Speaker Pro Tem **Sheila Kuehl** and Appropriations Committee Chair **Carole Migden** are "every bit as influential in Sacramento as Speaker **[Cruz] Bustamante**, and in combination more so."

Endless Ellen: I know you're

getting tired of it, but **Ellen DeGeneres** wants big names like **Oprah Winfrey** and **Laura Dern** to star on *Ellen* when her sitcom character finally comes out of the closet. ABC is considering the hour-long episode for the first Wednesday of the May sweeps, April 30.

Hey, both sides do it (though only one party can "rent" rooms at the White House at the same time!) Now the GOP has been caught demanding up to \$25,000 per person for a chance to privately rub shoulders with the likes of **Newt Gingrich** and **Trent Lott**. I wonder how much **Sonny Bono** charges?! As one GOP National Committee member told the *LA Times*: "Hey, this is the way we raise money in this town — like it or not — and we do it just like the Democrats do it." True enough, but it's certainly nothing to crow about.

A big Happy Birthday today (Feb. 27) to the world's most glamorous senior citizen, **Elizabeth Taylor**, who is now 65! Best wishes as well also go out to her for a speedy recovery from her recent surgery. Hurry back, Liz; we need you on the front lines in the war against AIDS.

City Attorney **Louise Renne** looks like she's getting a free ride to re-election. I guess Angela ain't interested.

Former Police Chief **Tony Ribera** thinking about elective office? Rumor has it.

While Republicans in West Virginia are getting ready to pass a bill banning same-sex marriages, Washington Governor **Gary Locke**, a Democrat, last week became the first state chief executive to actually veto such a bill. Thanks, Gov.

Not all members of the Congressional Black Caucus are thrilled to see LA Representative **Maxine Waters**, the fiery new chair of the 38-member group, as their spokesperson. Some secretly refer to her as the "liberal Democratic version of Bob Dornan."

A recent statewide Field Poll showed **Barbara Boxer** in better shape than previously thought as she heads toward next year's re-election race. **Dianne Feinstein**'s voter image continues to soar; the same poll showed over 54% favor a DiFi run for governor next year, though the verdict is still out on whether she'll toss her bow into the ring or not.

Finally, a personal note to **Sweet Lips**'s longtime pal and bartender extraordinaire, **Greta Grass**. Thanks for the compliments, Greta. Glad to know you are a regular reader. ▼



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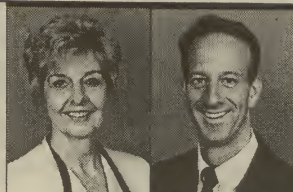
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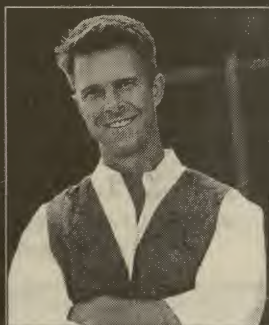
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## GAPA glamour



Gregory H. Fletcher

**T**he Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) float was once again a crowd favorite at the annual Chinese New Year's Parade. The parade, held in San Francisco's legendary Chinatown this past Saturday, was viewed by the thousands who lined the route as well as those who watched at home on television.

## Rock 'n' roll fantasy

by Beth Elliott

**R**ock 'n' Roll Is Here to Stay, Be It Dead or Alive Dept.: Gee, the way some of the local music critics and "alternative" journalists went on, you'd think it was Debbie Boone who'd been booked into the Fillmore instead of twenty nights of Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. And this from the people who've begun to lionize Tony Bennett. *S.F. Weekly* called it a waste of Fillmore dates on a dinosaur. The *Chronicle* said the booking was irrelevant to the young music audience that presumably has some kind of proprietary interest in the hall. Unfortunately for that daily, one of the 14-year-olds for whom the middle-aged critic presumed to speak wrote in to say, in effect, piss off, I wanna see a Petty show (and he did, courtesy of KFOG, who liked the kid's spirit).

I have some Petty CDs. There isn't a one on which I don't skip tracks, but he rocks. Despite having been exposed to the new post-modern S.F. music scene, where the symbolism of a band's music (and its audience's attire) is key, I still cling to the hopelessly outmoded view that having chops and being able to say something musically actually count for something. I can't help but see a lot of other people as being schizophrenic when it comes to laying down a groove: if it's done with automation for "dance music," it's wonderful. If it's done by real people playing actual instruments, it's dinosaur droppings.

Am I overstating the case that it's unhip to like music qua music, but fashionable to fashion a taste in music by what the band tries to symbolize? I don't think so. Gina Arnold raved about Team Dresch in the *East Bay Express* recently, but qualified her praise by saying two of the band members had actual instrumental skills, so if they got any better she probably wouldn't like them anymore. Things are pretty bad when the only way to rule as a band is to suck as musicians.

There's a lot of attitude around

musicians who achieve success, too—Adam Durwitz of Counting Crows started taking a lot of grief when that band's first album started selling in mass quantities. People would come up to him in coffeehouses and scream in his face that he was a sell-out. Why? Because his music was insufficiently inaccessible? Because by getting to quit his day job (or lack of same) he was letting some poor slob down by no longer being a loser? Is the only way to be authentic to go unappreciated?

Then there is the case of Sheryl Crow, who had the temerity to ditch the trendy boys whom conventional wisdom held responsible for her success. While some of her public statements around that were a little iffy, there was something about the attitude that her talent would not have been sufficient to land her a contract—much less make her a star—that made me uncomfortable. I know what that something was, too: the suggestion that this woman, this "chick," any "chick" lacks what it takes to be a real rock musician and would be nothing without a man.

So I'm glad Sheryl Crow is up for another Grammy. My take on her first album was, "Nice little album; too bad this award is going to put so much pressure on her, because I don't know that the talent she has is that developed yet." And here she comes back with a second album with multiple hits—and a vision. She said she wanted to do something "down home yet funky, kind of like Bobby Gentry." Sounds like she nailed it, too: "Hard to Make a Stand" is a fine little song. Even if her music isn't your cup of tea, it can't be denied that she's for real.

It's like when my ex-lover's son criticized "formula" music: all the artists he criticized just happened to be female. Including females who at least wrote and produced their own music.

I wish I had more to write about in the way of musical expe-

riences in Nepal (yes, the saga continues). But we had one night of culturally authentic music, at the sacred dance performance at the Hotel Vajra. A woman in the ensemble played a drone instrument that looked like some kind of stringed bass instrument, and I had to resist picking it up and checking it out. At the police checkpoint outside Pokhara, a young boy sang, beautifully, what sounded like authentic songs.

Alas, the bus pulled out before I could fish out a rupee for him.

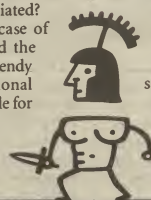
Other than that, we were exposed to aggressive peddlers selling either wooden flutes, a small viol, or the same tape of Nepali folk music (no doubt dubbed to death). That and Indian pop music, mostly on bus driver Baby

Duckies' tape deck. These were mostly in Hindi with a tag line in English. Classmate Gita showed us the Asian style of snapping fingers on both hands, while moving them from side to side to the beat.

Though I turned on the Indian video channel back at the hotel, I didn't catch either of two songs that captivated us. One, "Made in India," was so popular that a clip from the video was featured in a commercial for India-made audio/visual consumer electronics. I never saw "I Just Want to Be Another Girl," but caught one plump and very sexy woman's "Cat Walk."

Meanwhile, Thamel music stores seemed to sell only Indian/Nepali classical music or western pop music. Willie Nelson in Kathmandu? Believe it. I think I'll have to go to Berkeley to check out the pop sounds I heard over there.

One video channel had songs from Indian movies—including a new release with a Hindi version of the Macarena. Imagine walking down one of the locals' streets after having scored a pair of singing bowls and hearing music from an open door—and it's the Macarena. It's a small world after all! ▼



**Sapphistication**



# Lob Bohèmes

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

If there ever was a stereotype about queers, it was this: gay boys couldn't throw a ball straight if their life depended on it. At school, we were the butterfingers klutzes who got picked last for every team. If by some mischance the ball came our way, we'd lob it with an ineffectual flailing motion in totally the wrong direction, to the fury of our team-mates. But lesbians — why, your average lesbian can nail home plate from the right-field fence, while nonchalantly tossing a wad of chewing tobacco from one cheek-pouch to the other.

A couple of years ago, two psychologists at the University of Western Ontario, Jeff Hall and Doreen Kimura, set out to test whether there was any truth to the stereotype. They advertised on campus to find gay and straight women and men willing to be tested in return for cash. Having collected 78 guinea pigs, they brought them to the test arena, which was set up like a fairground booth: you stood behind a line and threw a Velcro-covered ball towards a target on a wall that was covered with carpeting. The wall had a target marked on it, and the researchers measured the distance between the target and the spot where the ball stuck itself to the carpeting. (They could have used darts, of course, but what if the gay guys ended up nailing their feet to the ground?)

Well, the results were as expected. First, the straight men did way better than the straight women. That just confirmed a sex difference that has been reported in previous studies. But the gay

men did about as badly as the straight women, and the lesbians did about as well as the straight men. In other words, being queer seems to make you "sex-atypical" in throwing ability.

The results were clear enough, but the interpretation ... that's another matter. Some people would argue that all these differences are the result of socialization. Fathers take their sons to the ball-park and work on their throwing skills, while mothers engage their daughters in "arm's-length" activities like baking cakes. And queer kids are socialized to be gender rebels, so it's the opposite for them.

Kimura and Hall don't believe that. For one thing, if the differences resulted from training and experience, they should be experience-specific. In other words, the differences should be most marked when the subjects threw the ball in the manner to which they were accustomed, and least marked when they were made to throw in some unusual manner. But that wasn't so — the differences were just as great when the subjects were made to throw with their "wrong" hand, or to throw underhand rather than overhand. Also, the researchers took detailed histories of the subjects' engagement in sports activities. When they applied statistical techniques to allow for differences in sports experience, the differences in throwing skills persisted.

Of course, the ideal experiment would be to test the throwing skills of gays and lesbians while they are

very young children, before they get socialized. The problem is, you don't know who's going to be gay till years later, and no one has the patience for that kind of long-term study. Still, the basic sex difference has been confirmed in young children: boys throw more accurately than girls pretty much from the first moment they can

heft a ball into the air. It seems that

accurate throwing is part of the cognitive "package" that comes with being male. Perhaps it's a relic from our hunter/gatherer days, when men were the hunters, women the gatherers.

So maybe the gay/straight difference is inborn, too. That's what Hall and Kimura think. They propose that both throwing skill and sexual orientation are governed by parts of the brain whose development is under the influence of sex hormones. So if genes or hormones or other biological factors drive the development of one system in the "male-typical" direction, it will likely drive the other system in that direction too. And vice versa.

That doesn't mean that gay men have female brains, or that lesbians have male brains. There are other traits that distinguish men from women, where gays and lesbians score the same as straight people of the same sex. It's as if gay people are a gender-blended mosaic. And I, for one, am perfectly happy with that. ▼

## Queer Science

# Socarides back as gay liaison

by Bob Roehr

He's back. Richard Socarides was again named as President Clinton's liaison to the gay community, a post he held for a few weeks in mid-1996. The official word came from the White House on Monday, February 24.

In June of last year Socarides was named Special Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy and Political Affairs, when the first liaison Marsha Scott resigned to work on the President's reelection campaign.

He was soon transferred to the campaign staff because his work was primarily political. However, the fact of his departure from the White House staff was not made public until later, when the media inquired. Socarides spent the next four months defending Clinton before the gay and lesbian community. The liaison position has been

open for more than six months.

Socarides' new title is Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor for Public Liaison, a promotion. His responsibilities include liaison to labor, civil rights, health and AIDS groups. But implicit in that is a downgrading of time devoted to gay and lesbian issues.

Gay organizations that work with the White House greeted the announcement with the standard "we look forward to working with..." response. Dissent came from Steve Michael with ACT UP/Washington. He remembers that last year Socarides told the gay newspaper *LGNY* that he hadn't even looked at the issue of needle exchange. "For Socarides to be dealing with AIDS issues and health issues is an absolute insult," he said. "It looks like this is Clinton's way to deal with us, our issues are being buried." ▼

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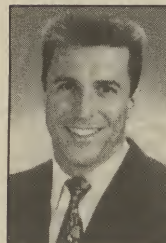
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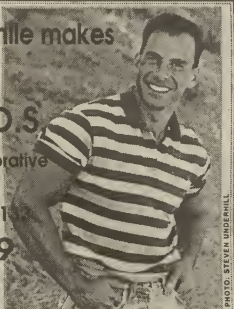


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# That ticking sound is not a bomb!

by Terry Beswick

I've been thinking about making babies of late. Actually, ever since I first got to be "mommie" when playing "house" in kindergarten. And, until now, it always seemed impossible.

Of course, there are a million practical reasons why I shouldn't. At the moment, not having enough money to pay the rent this month seems the most compelling reason. Being single is another. Then again, these little details never seem to stop the heterosexuals from breeding! And after all, babies do tend to be fairly understanding about living on a shoe-string budget....

Probably the biggest reason I don't have kids already is the simple fact that I do not have a truly life-like, reproductively functional uterus. God only knows that if I did, I would probably have at least a dozen kids by now, **barrier birth control** notwithstanding.

But it's really not fair! I mean, I'm sure I've given much more thought to the subject of procreation and its attendant responsibilities than most people do before they go ahead and just do it. I mean, I was a founding member of **Moms Online** (albeit under an assumed screen name: **Wired2BMom**)!

I've tried to get over it. I've asked myself: why? Why do I have this most primal instinct to clutter my life with dirty diapers and sleep deprivation?

I've come to realize that this is rather a silly question, sort of like asking, "What is the meaning of life?" Or, "Why do I need to eat? Or breathe? Or have sex?!" There's really very little logic to any of it - the only good answer to the really important questions is, quite simply, "Because."

Accepting our **powerlessness** over things is an important rite of passage we all experience in adolescence. You have ugly shoes because. You have pimples because. You live in a trailer because. You're a fag because. Whatever. The key is in identifying those things you can *change*. (For example, you can redecorate your trailer.)

Anyway. The bottom line is I am sliding inescapably closer to the big Four-Oh (Yes, Mary!), and I am powerless over my gay genes, which are crying out, "Make babies! Make babies before you're all dried up!" Of course, I know my **gay genes** are just confused: I'm nowhere near menopause, and my little spermatozoa could conceivably continue making me want to have babies. (amongst other crazy things) for decades.

But I want to *live* to see my little tyke put on his first heels!

This morning, as I mulled over these issues, logging lazily on to the Web to read **The New York Times** over my first cup of coffee (I'm so over these **provincial dailies**), my mind snapped to attention.

**"Scientist Clones Sheep! People Next?"**

screamed the headline. My mind reeled with the implications.

Seems that a certain Scottish agricultural scientist, a **Dr. Ian Willmutt**, had grown rather fond of a favorite six-year-old ewe, and decided to do what they said couldn't be done: he cloned the ewe, Polly, in a petri dish, without fertilization, using only a small tissue sample from her udder! Now he has two **genetically identical ewes**, the latter of which he has named, "Dolly."

Of course Dr. Willmutt says he "can't imagine" why anyone would want to try the Polly/Dolly thing with humans, and all the **biotechnology scavengers** are scurrying to declare their opposition to cloning people. As if.

Which brings me to my point. I have long been concerned with diminishing gay genes. I mean, in the old days, people used to get married to people of the opposite sex and make babies just to keep up appearances even if one or both of them were gay. Thankfully, this socially enforced practice has fallen increasingly out of favor, but what does this do to the gay gene pool?

If we can all now agree at long last that we are not gay because of domineering mommies and ab-

sent daddies, then obviously either mom or dad or both must have carried the gay gene (perhaps recessive), as do we. So, obviously, if those with dominant gay genes stop breeding, these genes will gradually die out. Forget about **10%**. Were talkin' zip!

Though the 15 billion dollar behemoth known as the **U.S. National Institutes of Health** readily admits they never would have funded the Polly/Dolly research (though not for ethical reasons - "too practical," they say), President Clinton has now jumped into the fray, asking

NIH to convene one of those ubiquitous "panels of experts" to review the implications of cloning technology for people.

Kind reader, I urge you to take up your keyboard today and e-mail the President. I ask you to help me and

thousands of others to become gay parents. Let him know that gay people everywhere demand access to cloning technology now!

Tell him that because same-sex gay couples by definition cannot biologically mate (much less marry), we need access to cloning so we may reproduce ourselves and ensure healthy populations of proud little gays and lesbians for generations to come! What better form of "in your face" activism than ensuring a healthy gay and lesbian gene pool into the next century?!

Besides, at the rate things are going, this may be the only way I ever get my new baby - by making another me! I mean, come on! Isn't that what all breeders really want anyway?

In closing, I am reminded of the immortal last words of **Oscar Wilde** (1854-1900): "It would really be more than the English could stand if another century began and I were still alive. I am dying as I have lived - beyond my means."

Tick, tick, tick. :-)

Visit bolded hyper-links on:  
<http://members.aol.com/Wired2BGay/vqz.html>.

## Queer families group hosts meeting

by Cynthia Laird

All Our Families Coalition, a group of families and family activists, will host its first coalition-building meeting this Thursday, March 6 for interested groups and agencies.

Cheryl Deaner, executive director, said the meeting is for organizations that serve non-traditional families, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender families. The coalition, a group of families and activists, was organized last month to encourage and support community-building among families, Deaner said. They promote families whose human and civil rights are often compromised by legal and social discrimination, she added.

"The theme of this first meeting will be getting to know each other better," said Deaner, a family activist. "Please bring information about your organization and

your ideas of how we can all better work together."

The coalition seeks to empower families that do not conform to traditional heterosexual standards, such as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families, single-parent families, immigrant and extended "non-legal" families. The group sponsors community organizing and social, educational, and health-related events that promote families.

Deaner said the coalition is also planning to take part in two major events for later this year. The first is during the annual pride parade festivities in late June, including the Saturday before the pride parade, which generally focuses on family themes.

In October, the coalition will co-sponsor a "Family Day" with the National Center for Lesbian Rights. For the last three years, the event has been held to showcase families and family organizations. There were 500 participants at last

year's Family Day, Deaner said.

The All Our Families Coalition has several ongoing activities as well, including a family line that provides a clearinghouse of information and referrals. It is staffed weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The number is (415) 681-1960.

Other activities include community events, a speaker's bureau, and monthly meetings, with child-care provided.

There's also a social action committee that works to inform and mobilize families so that they can respond in their best interests to the political, social, and legal issues that affect them. ▼

The meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, located at 1187 Franklin Street at Geary. To attend the meeting or for more information, call (415) 681-1960.



## Oklahomaphobe

◀ page 1

lation – or show good faith compliance efforts – are subject to the loss of the city contracts if they do not provide the benefits by June.

Such benefits are routinely provided by a growing number of national employers including Disney, Apple Computer, IBM, Levi-Strauss and other companies.

Under Webb's measure, any business that "recruits employees" or continues to employ workers "engaged in conduct with another person of the same gender which is not recognized as a legal marriage under the laws of the state of Oklahoma," would have been have been required to forfeit their service contracts and pay the money back to the state.

"It's clearly not serious and is mean-spirited," said openly gay US Congressman Barney Frank, D-Mass. "There are also the obvious constitutional arguments."

Although the proposed law failed to get out of committee, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Kerry Lobel told the *Bay Area Reporter* that such legislation panders to anti-gay violence – and fuels "the climate of hate" against the lesbian and gay community.

However, she also pointed out a silver lining.

"The reality for the State of Oklahoma is that this would limit their ability to buy computers, cars, and insurance. It would limit their ability to engage in trade and business. That's how far we've come," she said.

Lobel predicted there will be increases in similar local and state legislative efforts around the country because of right-wing resistance to political gains by lesbians and gays in the workplace.

"We are making a cultural shift, and people are resisting that shift. It's part of the pattern to try to turn back the clock. With an average of two anti-gay bills introduced every day, we have to take it seriously. They are serious threats to our community," Lobel said.

Webb did not respond to *Bay Area Reporter* calls for comment. ▼

## Marine pleads guilty to cybersex

United Press International

A Marine lieutenant colonel has pleaded guilty to charges of sending graphic homosexual messages through a government computer at a Virginia base, a published report said Thursday, February 20.

The *Washington Times* says Lieutenant Colonel Russell W. Colman Jr., the 44-year-old married father of three children, faces a maximum sentence that includes more than four years in prison, forfeiture of pay, and dismissal from the corps.

Colman pleaded guilty February 19 to one charge of communicating indecent language to five persons on the Internet, and to conduct unbecoming an officer. He also admitted guilt to a charge of improper use of government property.

Colman's attorney, David Sheldon, announced plans to call more than a half-dozen witnesses at Colman's sentencing hearing on Thursday, February 27. ▼

## Mentor by modem

by Al Kielwasser

A "Mentoring Site for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Youth, Young Adults and their Friends" is currently under development [<http://www.geocities.com/West-Hollywood/6210>]. According to creator Randy Olson, his new site is intended to provide "an additional resource for youth to obtain support, answers to their questions, and other information, through an online network of mentors, peers and adults." Among the featured pages is "Our Stories, Our Lives" – a compilation of "people's stories and experiences as they relate to coming out, dealing with sexuality, homophobia, etc." "Anyone interested in sharing their stories can reply via e-mail ([olsonra@pacbell.net](mailto:olsonra@pacbell.net)) or directly at the website," says Olson.

## Wait 'til the sun turns nelly ...

An online picture book writ-

ten for, but not exclusively to, the children of gay or lesbian parents is now available at Open Prairie Syndicate's web site [<http://www.visi.com/~oprairie/hooover/book/book.html>]. The book – *If the Sun Were Queer* – was inspired by the Sharon Bottoms travesty and similar cases nationwide, where children have been removed from or denied placement in a queer parent's home. Online for over a year, the Open Prairie Syndicate regularly "showcases cartoonists who work outside of the mainstream press" – including Alison Bechdel's "Dykes to Watch Out For" [<http://www.visi.com/~oprairie/>].

## Black flag

An online magazine dedicated to gays and lesbians of color, *Blackout* offers news releases, reviews, stories, interviews, a national events calendar, links galore and a live chat page. According to its producers, "It's as glossy as the Internet is ever going to get!" [<http://www.networkamerica.com/~dagarrat/blackout/>].

## How many lesbians does it take...

Laugh Lines Press – "publisher of award-winning lesbian humor books" – now has a website [<http://www.outbooks.com/laughlines>].

## 'Lens' crafter

"The Lavender Lens" is a weekly feature on queer film history, written by David Johnson and illustrated with movie stills! For more information, browse Johnson's home page [<http://home.aol.com/flicfag>].

## Feel the force

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has upgraded its web site – "Task Force Online" – which now features a fully-searchable database of state bills and legislative information [<http://www.nglft.org>]. "We're proud to offer this new, valuable resource to activists and organizers around the country," said Kerry Lobel, NGLTF executive director. "It's in our mission to



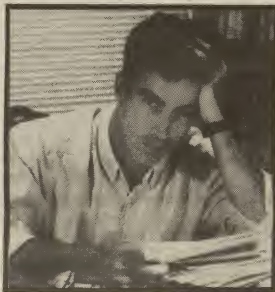
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powerfully leverage and integrate all our high technology assets in the fight for equality."

## TV guidance

The "Ultimate TV List" has been relocated [<http://www.ultimate-tv.com/>]. This site is one of the best on the net for searching all-things-television: shows, networks, addresses, news, industry links, and more. ▼

Al Kielwasser is the editor of "Gay People, Sex and the Media" "MEDIA!ert!" is a biweekly, advocacy-oriented column of media criticism, primarily focused on lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender issues, distributed as a community press service since 1992. Contact: A. P. Kielwasser, MEDIA!ert!, 163 Park Street, San Francisco, CA 94110-5835, voice-mail 415-826-5203, fax 415-826-5203, e-mail [mediaction@aol.com](mailto:mediaction@aol.com).



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# Bathhouse forum asks: Whose responsibility is safe sex?

by Liz Highleyman

Community discussion on the issue of sex clubs and bathhouses reached a new level Saturday, February 22 in a forum sponsored by the Stop AIDS Project. A standing-room-only crowd of nearly 100 attended the event at the Metropolitan Community Church. According to organizer Steve Gibson, "in all the controversy about legislating the sex clubs and reopening the bathhouses, the question about whose job is it to have safe sex is getting lost."

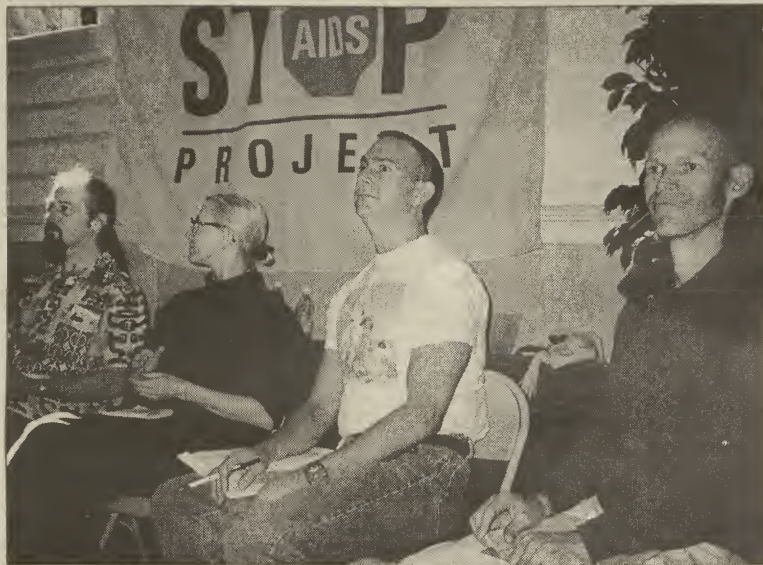
Debate has been lively following the withdrawal last fall of proposed legislation to regulate the city's sex clubs and the announcement at this month's Coalition for Healthy Sex (CHS) meeting that the Department of Public Health (DPH) plans to institute mandatory standards. Segments of the community have expressed outrage that officials have moved forward without public input. The standards provoking the most controversy are those concerning locked private rooms and mandatory monitoring of patrons' sexual activity.

The forum featured speakers with a range of opinions, although the panelists and the majority of the audience seemed to agree that the responsibility for ensuring safer sex primarily rests with the individuals involved. Sexologist and Good Vibrations education director Carol Queen

began by noting that the first safer sex educators in the city — many of whom were associated with the Institute for the Advanced Study of Human Sexuality — saw the value of promoting public venues where people could learn in a hands-on manner about eroticizing safer sex, which "you can't learn from a brochure, even an illustrated one." Communication and negotiation were key components of the "San Francisco model" of safer sex education. There have been major changes in our understanding of the AIDS epidemic in the city, Queen said, and "key components of the model have again become controversial."

Scott O'Hara, a former porn star and publisher of *Steam* magazine, has had experience in public sex venues around the world. He noted that San Francisco's policy of permitting sex clubs but not bathhouses with private rooms is unique. Bathhouses are not just sex establishments, O'Hara said, but also serve as social clubs for gay men; "stand up" sex clubs without private spaces are not conducive to conversation and more intimate interactions. Describing the bathhouses in Amsterdam — which often include cafes for socializing and are an accepted part of the gay scene — O'Hara said it was "depressing to see San Francisco without this kind of facility."

He emphasized that "my body is not [DPH AIDS Office Director] Mitch Katz's or anyone else's,"



Tongue 'n' groove panelling: Jerry Zientara, Carol Queen, Jonathan Katz, and Scott O'Hara.

and compared the regulation of gay sexual activity with controlling whether a woman can have an abortion. "The increasing, oppressive level of control frightens me," O'Hara concluded.

## 'In a poor position'

The third panelist, Jerry Zientara, said he was there "because I followed my dick." Zientara was one of the founders of the SF Jacks 14 years ago, and one of the original members of the CHS, which evolved out of a group of party hosts using the space at 890 Folsom Street who got together to deal with logistical issues like "who buys the toilet paper." He emphasized that the CHS was not originally set up as a public forum to decide on standards for sex clubs, but rather "a group of guys and gals who threw parties together."

Zientara believes that behavior exchange occurs by observation in a supportive environment; when

people "seek nirvana" in sex, there is a responsibility to ensure that they have a "safe landing place." Noting that some people attend sex clubs and parties and some don't (and inviting Katz and his staff to attend SF Jacks parties for free), Zientara concluded that "those who don't are in a poor position to tell those of us who do what to do."

When asked later about how the CHS became involved in the development of sex club regulations, Zientara and Queen pointed out that this had happened largely by accident when the group was approached by Supervisor Tom Ammann. The heretofore voluntary guidelines developed by the party hosts and club owners were used as a basis for Ammann's proposed legislation. Zientara stated that the CHS never decided on a final draft and "many things were still at issue when the process was derailed." Queen noted that the CHS "had

to run to keep up with what was coming from without," as authorities threatened to close down city sex clubs. Regarding the "pro-latex bias" of the CHS, Queen emphasized that while most party hosts and club owners believed that it was appropriate to institute some regulations in their own spaces, "club regulations were not meant to encompass everyone."

Jim Montgomery, a health educator with the Gay Men's Health Collective of the Berkeley Free Clinic, has done extensive safer sex education in public sex environments, including Berkeley's Steamworks bathhouse. Members of the collective believed that baths were a good venue for education and did not support their closure in the mid-1980s. He noted that it would be much harder to reach men with education if they were forced into parks and public restrooms. Montgomery questioned why gay bath-

page 26 ►

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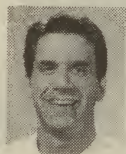
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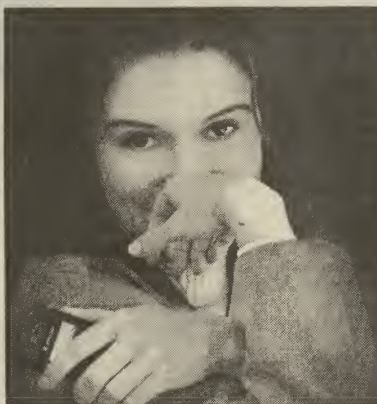


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# SF activist asks for state investigation of AIDS PAC

Only 7% went to candidates

by Cynthia Laird

A gay San Francisco man has written to California Attorney General Dan Lungren, requesting an investigation into the fundraising practices of the AIDS Political Action Committee (AIDS PAC) and the man behind it, Tom Sheridan, to determine why the PAC's contributions to political candidates are so paltry when compared to the actual amount of money raised.

Matt Ross, in the attorney general's press office, told the B.A.R. that the letter and formal complaint from AIDS activist Michael Petrelis has been received by the department's public inquiry unit. It is currently being reviewed before a response is sent to Petrelis.

Ross explained that he could not comment on whether the attorney general's office would conduct an investigation.

"It usually takes our office two to three weeks to respond," Ross told the B.A.R.

California residents who donated to AIDS PAC - the only national PAC geared towards AIDS -

may have been duped, Petrelis alleges.

Sheridan raised a staggering \$569,774 for the 1995-96 election cycle. Of that, only \$40,500, or 7.1 percent, went to candidates, FEC reports show. The rest of the money, \$529,274 or almost 93 percent, went to administrative overhead, FEC documents show.

In comparison, other PACs

based in El Segundo, California, you have jurisdiction in the matter," Petrelis stated in his February 4 letter to Lungren.

Petrelis observed that Federal Elections Commission (FEC) records show that Sheridan's AIDS PAC contributed \$3,500 to Democrat Loretta Sanchez in her successful, but hotly contested, southern California congressional

**California residents who donated to AIDS PAC—the only national PAC geared towards AIDS— may have been duped.**

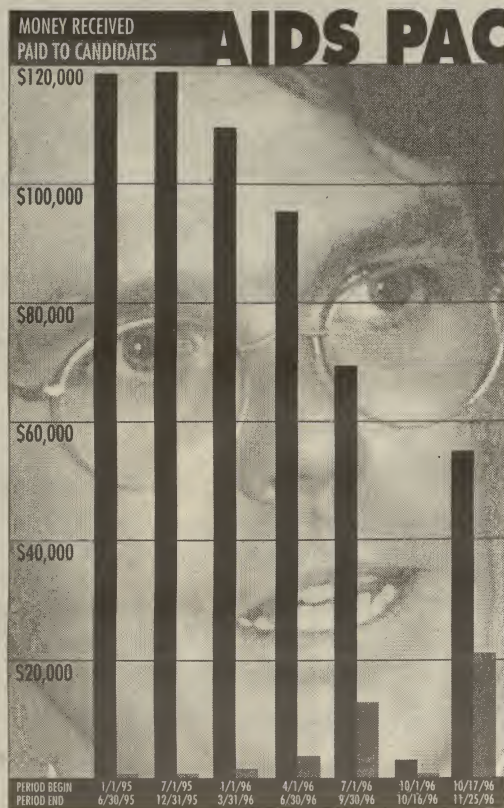
contribute as much as 70 percent of contributions to political candidates, according to a source who requested anonymity.

#### Jurisdiction

"I think many Californians were duped, deceived, and defrauded by Sheridan's AIDS PAC and his telemarketing firm, known as GSI, and since it is

race against anti-gay Republican Representative Robert Dornan. In fact, the \$3,500 Sanchez received was the highest of all the candidates who accepted money from AIDS PAC, according to FEC records. Petrelis has argued that California's attorney general has jurisdiction because the PAC distributed money in the state.

AIDS PAC contributed money



Graphic by Jorge Alonso; photo of Tom Sheridan by Rick Gerhardt

to other state congressional candidates too, Petrelis said. "Recent FEC records show at least three other California campaigns received donations from AIDS PAC, including the committees to elect the following candidates: Michela Alioto, Vic Fazio, and Rick Zbur.

"It is more than reasonable to assume that many California voters and donors concerned about AIDS were unfairly targeted by the AIDS PAC's telemarketing company," Petrelis wrote in his letter.

Petrelis requested that Lungren learn the "exact wording of the sales pitch" given by the telemarketers who called state residents to solicit contributions to AIDS PAC.

Petrelis believes many Californians were defrauded by Sheridan and his telemarketers into thinking their contributions were going directly to congressional candidates.

"It strongly appears the money went into very high overhead costs and salaries," Petrelis wrote.

"I want all voters worried about AIDS to know that donating to AIDS PAC may not be the best way to influence political races," Petrelis wrote in closing. "An investigation by your office will answer the questions surrounding the low figures given by AIDS PAC to candidates in the last election."

#### 'Not a charity'

Reached at his Washington D.C. office, Sheridan, who serves as AIDS PAC's treasurer, did not dispute figures from the FEC reports. He did emphasize that AIDS PAC is not allowed to take any in-kind donations and must purchase all supplies and services. He also said contributions to AIDS PAC are not tax deductible. "AIDS PAC is not a charitable organization," Sheridan told the B.A.R.

"We hope it [the percentage given to candidates] changes in the future, and that our operating costs level off. You invest in telemarketing and it pays off in three to five years. Start up costs are also more."

Sheridan said there are benefits and disadvantages with PACs.

The positive aspect is that AIDS PAC can talk to anyone in America about AIDS issues, he said.

"The disadvantage is that we have to spend fair market value for everything we do. You use your profits for candidates," said Sheridan.

#### 'No activity' at CAEAR?

Individuals may not be the only ones wondering just where their donations went. In addition to his involvement with AIDS PAC, Sheridan runs the Sheridan Group, a lobbying firm. Among its clients is the Cities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition. The coalition is made up of cities throughout the country that receive federal Ryan White CARE Act funds.

The city of San Francisco paid \$4,000 to the coalition as its portion of expenses to cover lobbying costs. A report filed by the Sheridan Group for the first six months of 1996 indicates that no activity took place. Petrelis wondered what happened to the city's money that was sent to the coalition.

The money came from the city's general fund, not Title I Ryan White money, as that would be illegal.

"We're part of the CAEAR Coalition and I believe through that, the city sent him [Sheridan] money. I think we paid \$4,000," Dean Goodwin, Mayor Willie Brown's liaison to the gay community, told the B.A.R.

Sheridan said the reason "no activity" was checked was because the CAEAR Coalition went through a reorganization process last year and no lobbying work was done by his firm.

"We took no money from the coalition during the six months," said Sheridan. "We were not representing them."

Commented Petrelis, "I don't think the city should pay an AIDS lobbyist any money when housing and other services for PWAs are stretched to the limit. Especially when we have our lobbyists [Congresswoman] Nancy Pelosi and [Senators] Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer." ▼

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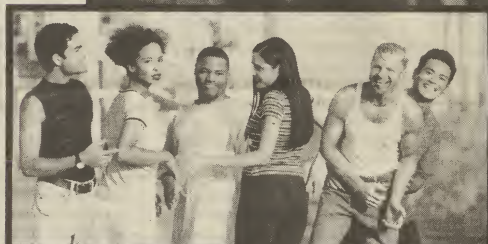
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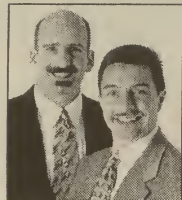
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# SF Methodist pastor prefers inclusion to anti-gay rule

by Claudia Figueroa

**R**everend Karen P. Oliveto, pastor at Bethany United Methodist Church in San Francisco's Noe Valley, is not satisfied with new policies of the national United Methodist Church. The national governing body voted to uphold a line in the church's Discipline, a book of UMC laws, which says homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Oliveto is especially disgruntled by the church's decision to end holy unions between homosexuals or allow them to be held in UMC buildings.

Last April, at the United Methodist General Conference in Denver, UMC clergy and lay members from 20 states called for an end to "needless debate" over the issue of gay unions, arguing that current prohibitions have been upheld throughout history by the witness of scripture and Christian tradition. Forty-seven members of

the denomination signed a three-page statement, released to confirm the decision. "The More Excellent Way: God's Plan Re-Affirmed," suggests that "those pressing for acceptance of homosexual practice find avenues other than the United Methodist pulpits, boards, agencies, educational institutions and other affiliated entities to express their views," according to a document released February 4th by the UM News Service.

Oliveto responded to the UMC's decision by signing a statement of conscience entitled "In all things Charity," declaring the church's decision to ban holy unions from the church is "unacceptable," and calling for the immediate acceptance of homosexuality. She is just one of many members of the denomination who are disappointed in the church's statement, and is convinced that the UMC's new rule prevents gays and lesbians from telling the truth to witness how God has moved in their lives.

"We can't back down from the ministry we've had, now that new rules have been put in place," said Oliveto. "We've been committed as United Methodists."

"One of the things I value, as a United Methodist, is we agree to differ. There is a wide range of theological differences within the United Methodist Church. Despite any differences, there is always a faithful response; that is what we teach."

"What I'm trying to do is remind others of our Methodist roots, which says we can have differences in opinions, because that's where we'll grow, in those differences," she said.

## Not incompatible

Oliveto, who earned a seminary degree from Pacific School of Religion, was ordained in 1982 before serving in a campus ministry unit at State University of New York in Delhi. She's been a pastor at Bethany since 1992, and currently serves as chairperson to the National Reconciling Congregation Program's Board of Directors (a nationwide network of 140 UMC congregations, campus ministries, and agencies welcoming gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender people). Oliveto explained to the *Bay Area Reporter*



Rev. Karen P. Oliveto: "We can't back down from the ministry we've had."

why the statement of conscience is important to the gay and lesbian community.

"In issuing this statement, we are confirming that scripture tradition, reason, and experience says that the practice of homosexuality is not incompatible with Christian teaching," she said.

Oliveto believes holy unions (recognized only within the UMC) are common these days. She said more holy unions were performed last year at Bethany than heterosexual marriages. Pastors from other cities call Oliveto and request her aid in training them to perform holy unions, because they know she performs them frequently. So far, Oliveto hasn't been affected by the new ruling passed on January 1st, but she knows other clergy members who are being threatened with charges for performing them. The result could cost them their ordination credentials.

According to Oliveto, San Francisco Bishop Melvin Talbert is one of 15 descending bishops who questions the denomination of polity, and he has been very supportive with gay and lesbian issues

in the past. Still, she said, he has to uphold the rules of the church. Meanwhile, the National Reconciling Congregation Program is attempting to preserve the rights of gays and lesbians within the UMC by providing the church support.

"That's a very important part of my ministry here at Bethany. We are a community where half of our congregation is gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender," Oliveto said.

"Not being allowed to celebrate their relationships ties my hands as a pastor. I can't be an effective pastor for them if I follow that rule."

Bethany is one of 130 Reconciling Congregations known nationwide for its openly gay and straight congregation. Worship services are held Sundays at 11 a.m., at 1268 Sanchez Street at Clipper in Noe Valley. ▽

For more information about the statement of conscience, the National Reconciling Board, or the community outreach work of Bethany Church, call 415-647-8393.

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## Outstanding Competition Event

- ☐ 1. Dyke Daddy/Dyke Mommy, Producer: Lady Hillary
- ☐ 2. International Mr. Bear, Producer: Bears of San Francisco
- ☐ 3. Closet Ball 96, Producer: Robert Michael Productions
- ☐ 4. Mr. & Miss GAPA at Runway 1996,  
Producer: Gay Asian Pacific Alliance
- ☐ 5. International Mr. Drummer Finals,  
Producer: Audrey Joseph & Fantastic Realities

## Outstanding Community Event

- ☐ 1. Castro STOP AIDS Weekend, Producer: STOP AIDS Project
- ☐ 2. City Hall Public Wedding Ceremony, Producer:  
City & County of San Francisco
- ☐ 3. LGADDA Annual Kwanzaa Celebration, Producer:  
Lesbians & Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action
- ☐ 4. Out & Equal in the '90s, Producer: National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
- ☐ 5. Gay Softball League's Opening Day,  
Producer: San Francisco Gay Softball League
- ☐ 6. Young, Loud & Proud, Producer: LYRIC

## Outstanding Event

- ☐ 1. Castro Street Station 21st Anniversary,  
Producer: Castro Street Station
- ☐ 2. The Celluloid Closet Opening Night, Producer: Frameline Productions
- ☐ 3. Girth & Mirth Conference,  
Producer: Girth & Mirth Club of San Francisco
- ☐ 4. The Uniform & Leather Ball, Producer: Phoenix Uniform Club
- ☐ 5. Bear Rendezvous 96, Producer: Bears of San Francisco
- ☐ 6. Wigstock West, Producer: Robert Martin

## Outstanding Fundraiser

- ☐ 1. Gay Bingo Nights, Producer: Coming Home Hospice,  
Beneficiaries: Various AIDS organizations
- ☐ 2. Help is on the Way, Producers: Ken Henderson and Joe Seiler,  
Beneficiaries: Visiting Nurses, Coming Home Hospice,  
Continuum HIV Day Services, and Hospice of SF
- ☐ 3. International Monday Night Dinners at the Embassy,  
Producer: A. L. Allen and David Gin, Beneficiaries: Various organizations
- ☐ 4. AIDS Dance-A-Thon 96, Producer: Miller, Ziechik and Associates,  
Beneficiaries: Mobilization Against AIDS and various organizations
- ☐ 5. Spin It! DJ's Fighting for a Cure, Producers: National Task Force on  
AIDS Prevention, Page Hodel, and San Francisco's DJ's
- ☐ 6. Until There's A Cure Day with the San Francisco Giants, Producer:  
Until There's A Cure Foundation, Beneficiaries: Various organizations
- ☐ 7. Up Your Alley/Folsom Street Fairs, Producer: SMMILE, Beneficiaries:  
Metropolitan Community Church, AIDS Benefit Counselors, Episcopal  
Community Services, AIDS/HIV Night Line, Shanti Project

## Outstanding Event by Individual or Small Business

- ☐ 1. Benefit for the Arc of Refuge,  
Producers: Club Universe & Eric Politzer
- ☐ 2. Pediatric AIDS Toy Drive, Producer: Club Universe
- ☐ 3. Esta Noche Fund Raiser for The Oscar Romero AIDS Project,  
Producer: Hector Leon
- ☐ 4. Our Eyes Are Still on the Prize, Producer: Brothers Network
- ☐ 5. Kitty Glamour Presents Oscar Night at the Arc, Producer:  
Mark Kirk and The Arc
- ☐ 6. Tenderloin Tessie's Holiday Dinners, Producer:  
Tenderloin Tessie's Board of Directors

## Outstanding Theme Decorations

- ☐ 1. The Cinch - Christmas
- ☐ 2. The Giraffe - Christmas
- ☐ 3. Lion's Pub - Christmas
- ☐ 4. Marlena's - Halloween
- ☐ 5. Rawhide II - Christmas
- ☐ 6. Twin Peak's - Christmas

## Outstanding Columnist

- ☐ 1. Melissa Fowler- Dykespeak
- ☐ 2. Cornelius Conboy - Oblivion
- ☐ 3. Todd Rosin- Hype
- ☐ 4. Phil Julian- Frontiers
- ☐ 5. ACT UP/Golden Gate Writers Pool- Bay Area Reporter
- ☐ 6. Yoko Own-it- Odyssey
- ☐ 7. Don Thompson- Bay Times

## Outstanding Women's Community Event

- ☐ 1. Dyke March, Producer: Dyke March Organizing Coalition
- ☐ 2. LAVA Awards 96, Producer:  
Bay Area Career Women's A Fund Of Our Own
- ☐ 3. 3rd Annual Legacy Tea Dance and Silent Auction,  
Producer: SPL Group
- ☐ 4. Hearts on the Bay, Producer: Wild Heart Productions
- ☐ 5. Vampires Out Of Our Closets,  
Producer: Dyke Mommy I Quistina Carroll

## Outstanding Dance Club

- ☐ 1. Club Universe
- ☐ 2. The G Spot
- ☐ 3. Pleasuredome
- ☐ 4. The Box
- ☐ 5. Club Q
- ☐ 6. Futura
- ☐ 7. The Endup
- ☐ 8. Trannyshack
- ☐ 9. Club Asia

## Outstanding Disc Jockey

- ☐ 1. David Harness - Club Universe
- ☐ 2. Blackstone - Club Universe, Endup
- ☐ 3. Ellen Ferrato - The Endup
- ☐ 4. Jaime J - Club Asia
- ☐ 5. Jerry Bonham - The Powerhouse
- ☐ 6. Downtown Donna
- ☐ 7. Anita Lofton - Club Q, The Box
- ☐ 8. Matthew Consola - G Spot

## Entertainer of the Year

- ☐ 1. Scott Capurro
- ☐ 2. Suzy Berger
- ☐ 3. Joan Jett Blakk
- ☐ 4. Mark Sargent
- ☐ 5. Veronica Klaus

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# Al Gore hears from local gay leaders

by Cynthia Laird

**S**an Francisco gay political and business leaders were generally satisfied after meeting with Vice President Al Gore in Berkeley last Wednesday, February 19. Although Gore announced no policy decisions, the dozen or so leaders were glad they had an opportunity to meet with him to discuss a variety of issues, including the Pentagon's witch-hunts of gays in the military and furthering the civil rights for the queer community.

"I've known him since 1978, and worked closely with him when he was a new congressman," San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal told the B.A.R. "Yes, he is the vice president, but to me, he's still Al. It was a pleasant meeting, about as upbeat as you can get."

The hour-long meeting ended with Gore requesting reading lists so that he can learn more about

the gay community. Most of those who attended the meeting were happy to comply. Dr. Mike Rankin took it upon himself to purchase some titles suggested by those at the meeting and shipped the "gay library" to Gore last Friday. [See story, next page.]

Others who attended the meeting included Supervisor Leslie Katz; Ben Schatz, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) and a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS; Assemblywomen Carole Migden and Sheila Kuehl; former supervisor and current Clinton appointee Roberta Achtenberg; and philanthropist Jim Hormel.

Rankin, who is chief of the psychiatric unit at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Oakland, lives in San Francisco and is a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS. He said the witch-hunts of gays and lesbians in the

military was most important to him, and that's what he spoke to Gore about.

"I'm a Vietnam veteran, as is he. We got a nice response from him on that; he'll talk to Secretary of Defense William Cohen personally," Rankin told the B.A.R. "I think he was sincere."

Gore was also referred to documentation of the military's witch-hunts that has been compiled by the Servicemembers Legal Defense Fund, a group that supports gay military personnel who are targeted by the Pentagon's "Don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Leal agreed that Gore's concern and willingness to talk to top defense officials is a good sign.

"This is not an issue [where] we are fighting the policy, it is an issue of why don't you [Pentagon] live by the policy," the supervisor said.

Another subject the leaders discussed with Gore involved the inclusion of a gay or lesbian fam-

ily at a family picnic event Gore and his wife, Tipper, host each year. Leal said that although it would be an "incredible risk, politically," for the vice president, who's all but certain to run for the top job in 2000, such an action would send a clear, positive message to the gay community.

"If you really want to say that it's okay, and good, it would be a big step to invite a lesbian parent or parents and their children," said Leal. "It would send such an incredible message."

## Symbolic gestures

Businessman Mark Leno agreed with the others that Gore seemed very sincere at the meeting, particularly on the gays in the military issue and his solid support for the federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), which lost by one vote in the Senate last year. The bill is expected to be reintroduced.

"I personally suggest we look

at symbolic gestures at this point and I wondered aloud, what would be the impact if [President] Clinton attended a very public same-sex marriage, such as his friend David Mixner's later this year," Leno told the B.A.R.

Steve Lew, also a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, said he felt the main point of Gore's visit with local gay leaders was "probing to see what expectations were for him."

"It was a pretty short meeting and there wasn't really an agenda. He seemed worn out by the time we met with him," Lew told the B.A.R. "The tenor of the meeting was 'we know you're running [for president], it's important to reach higher than the Clinton administration, even if it's only symbolic.'"

Gore's visit with gay leaders capped a two-day swing through the state to promote the Clinton administration's education goals. ▼

## Atlanta bombing

◀ page 1

pipes were packed with explosives and nails to cause worse damage than shrapnel alone; powder explosives were used in the Centennial Park bomb and dynamite was used in the abortion clinic bomb. No information on type of explosives in The Otherside bombing was released by presstime.

Law enforcement officials said they're cognizant of possible links. "We will be searching out the possibility that we have a serial bomber," Woody Johnson of the FBI said Saturday.

The bombing of The Otherside has prompted area bar owners to be more cautious.

"What we've done is increase security," Revolution's Cohen said. Management added a security guard at the door, they won't allow backpacks and other bags in, and they're checking premises more carefully, she said. They're also asking patrons not to leave handbags unattended and to report to bar staff any that are.

"I'm very concerned and don't know what to think," said Susan Borden, co-owner of My Sisters' Room in Midtown Promenade. "I'm afraid of what could happen to my place." Borden said she and

other tenants have spoken with shopping center management to increase security.

The incident prompted club management at March to increase the number of security officers from two to three for the "Girls in the Night" event Saturday. "We've beefed up security and can only hope that nothing crazy happens," the club's spokesman Tucker said the day after The Otherside bombing.

## Domestic terrorism?

Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell's first reaction to the bombing came in a statement 7:30 a.m. the next morning.

"This is eerily reminiscent of last summer and last month," Mayor Bill Campbell said in a press conference the morning after, referring to the abortion clinic attack and the downtown park bombing during the summer Olympics. Nick Gold, spokesman for Campbell, said later that day, "We are working on this around the clock and take this very seriously."

Georgia's chapter president of the National Organization for Women, Vicki McClellan, said she has no doubt about the connection and the danger.

"People don't automatically see the connection between abortion and lesbians," McClellan said. "These people feel women don't have the right to operate outside the conventional nuclear family," said McClellan, explaining that abortion and lesbianism are perceived by some as a threat. "Angry white straight men are who we're looking at," said McClellan, referring to likely suspects.

Walter Reeves with the Neighbors Network, a group that studies hate crimes in Georgia and adjacent states, said he also believes the bombings are connected.

"We're experiencing a wave of domestic terrorism motivated by political extremism," Reeves said. "We all have to be on guard, and

not just gay groups or pro-choice groups, but anyone who can find themselves on the enemies list of extremists."

## Increased security

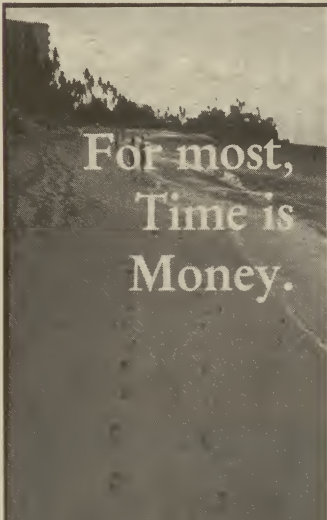
"The paranoia level is huge," said Cohen of Revolution, a predominantly lesbian bar in Ansley Square. Bob Touton, a night manager at Backstreet, said staff followed the drama as it unfolded on TV: "We have several friends who work there, and we were very concerned about their safety."

"We're going to up our security. We'll be checking all bags, big purses and backpacks."

Some area bar owners said they didn't think it would deter gays and lesbians from going out. "I've worked in men's bars and in women's bars in this community for ten years, and I've yet to see anything significant enough to prevent people from going out," Cohen said.

"It actually brought me out," said Kelly Schneider. "I'm damn sure not going to let it keep me at home. I'd hate to think things were going back to the way they used to be. We can't let this intimidate us." ▼

Scott R. Akin, Laura Brown, and David Goldman contributed to this report.



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## Army of God

◀ page 1

also reportedly threatened that other gay and lesbian clubs would be attacked in the future.

The abortion clinic was bombed in January because of the "murder" of 3.5 million children every year, according to the letter.

"Those who participate in any-way [sic] in the murder of children may be targeted for attack," it said.

A second clinic bomb, which exploded more than an hour after the first one, "was aimed at agents of the so-called federal government, i.e. ATF, FBI," the letter claimed.

Five people were hurt in the weekend nightclub blast. Seven people were injured in the abortion clinic bombing.

On Monday, before the letter was publicized, President Clinton's spokesperson, Mike McCurry, told reporters, "We cannot declare a

motive or declare that this has been directed against any particular community. But the possibility of that is sufficient that the president wanted to make sure that ample federal resources were available.

"And, of course, if it is established that this is directed against gay and lesbian groups in particular, he would find that deeply troubling and would find that something that all Americans should join in condemning."

The Center for Democratic Renewal, an Atlanta organization that tracks hate groups, says The Army Of God first became known in the early 1980s when three members kidnapped an Illinois doctor and his wife.

The organization has published an anti-abortion manual which includes instruction on making bombs.

The letter made no reference to last summer's bombing of Centennial Olympic Park, which killed two people and injured more than 100 others. ▼



## Gorey stories

## What should the veep read?

by Dennis Conkin

While *The Bottoming Book* — local expert Dossie Eason's pioneering treatise on the submissive S&M scene — might make the nation's vice-presidential wife Tipper Gore a little nervous, San Francisco lesbian activist Peggy Sue insists it is required reading for hubby Al.

So is Kitty Kelly's unauthorized tell-all tattle tome on Nancy Reagan; Dorothy Allison's *Bastard Out of Carolina*; Pat Califia's *Macho Sluts*; and Betty and Pansy's *Severe Queer Review of San Francisco*, according to Sue.

The *Bay Area Reporter* asked Sue and others to recommend reading lists for the vice president, after Gore asked lesbian and gay leaders for their similar suggestions during a brief meeting here last week.

Asian AIDS and gay activist Steve Lew, who was at the meeting, told the *B.A.R.* that Gore requested the list immediately after a discussion on whether lesbian and gay families would be included during a proposed White House Conference on Families.

"He asked for a list of books that we would recommend if we were developing a curriculum. I'd have to say James Baldwin's *Just Above My Head*," Lew said. "It inspired me when I was young."

Lew said that Baldwin's book provided a way of looking at gay experience through the context of the civil rights movement, and that it gave an additional perspective "besides the Stonewall leaders and movement."

Mike Rankin, MD, an openly gay physician who is the Chief of Psychiatry at the Veterans Administration's Oakland facility, sent a stack of books to the vice president, culled from titles people began yelling out to Gore during the brief tête-à-tête.

Rankin, who was also former Mental Health Commissioner for the State of Arkansas when Clinton was governor, called the idea of asking others in the community for input "great."

## No AIDS 101

"Gore is friends with Barney and Herb and Roberta and Mary," Rankin said, referring to gay Democratic Congressman Barney Frank and his partner, Herb Moses; and lesbian former HUD Assistant Secretary Roberta Achtenberg and her partner, onetime San Francisco Municipal Court judge Mary Morgan. "He doesn't need AIDS 101."

Rankin told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Gore received several suggestions on religious themes, including a book entitled *Twice Blessed*, by Christie Balka and Andy Rose, about the gay Jewish experience, as well as MCC/Dallas minister Mel White's *Stranger At The Gate*, on his experience as a closeted gay man penning hateful speeches and right wing invective for anti-gay Christians Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson.

Other suggestions the vice president heard included *A Boy's Own Story*, a fictional account of a young gay man's coming out story — which ends with the sexual abuse arrest of his older male partner — and *Stranger and Friend*, David Mixner's account of his friendship with Bill Clinton — and his dismay at the president's han-

dling of the gays in the military issue.

"I wonder if *City of Night* would be too dated?" wondered long-time gay Democratic activist Mark Leno, about author John Rechy's landmark 1963 period piece of a young man's self-hating and troubled passage through early '60s L.A. homosexual subculture.

Controversial ACT UP/San Francisco member Michael Bellefountain told the *Bay Area Reporter* that his list intentionally excluded any work by historic gay journalist Randy Shilts, such as *The Mayor of Castro Street* and *...And The Band Played On*, which Gore received in the package, according to Rankin.

Not surprisingly, Bellefountain's recommendations included works by scientist Dr. Peter Duesberg, *Inventing the AIDS*

*Virus*, as well as *At Your Own Risk: A Saint's Testament* by the late British filmmaker Derek Jarman.

Openly lesbian parent and renegade Lutheran minister Reverend Ruth Frost recommended that Gore read *Geography of the Heart* by celebrated author Fenton Johnson.

Gay single parent and African-American political activist Ker- rington Osborne recommended that Gore read *Making Love Visible*, about the diversity of lesbian and gay families, with text by Jean Swallow and photographs by Geoff Manasse.

"Frankly, my son and I are in it," a proud Osborne chuckled.

## The word of the Lorde

The recommendations of Dr. S'Diane Adamz-Bogus, of Woman In the Moon Publishing, included her own *Dyke Hands and Su-*

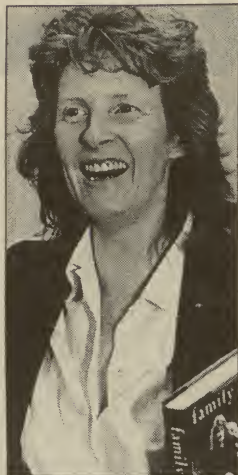
*tras/Erotic and Poetic*, the late Audre Lorde's essay collection *A Burst Of Light*, and *Home Girls* by Kitchen Table/Woman of Color Press.

"That's the best all-around anthology dealing with minority women and women involved with lesbian and feminist issues," Adamz-Bogus said.

Other books suggested were works on military and gay issues, such as Shilts's *Conduct Unbecoming*; Greta Cammermeyer's *Serving in Silence*, the autobiographical account of her career as a lesbian military official; and *Honor Bound*, Joe Steffan's autobiographical account of his fight to stay in the military.

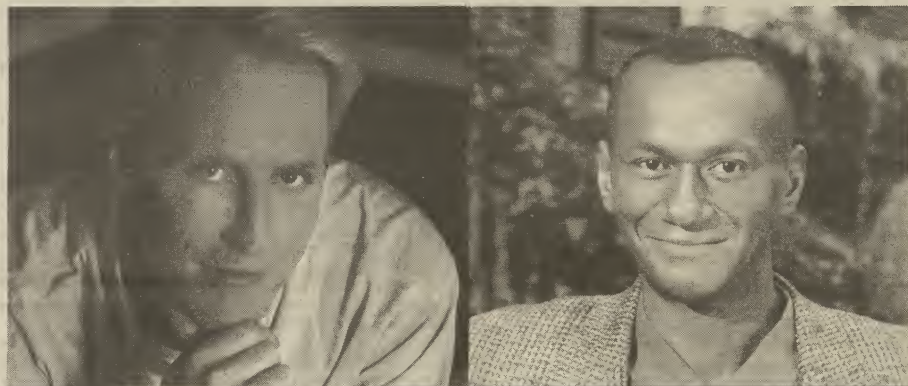
One of the best sources for gay literature in the world was unhesitating in her suggestions for Al Gore's reading list.

"For the vice president?" said



On the list: Phyllis Burke.

Amy Jamgochian, an ace clerk at Castro Street's A Different Light Bookstore. "I'd recommend *Gender Shock*, by Phyllis Burke. And her other book, *Family Values*." ▼



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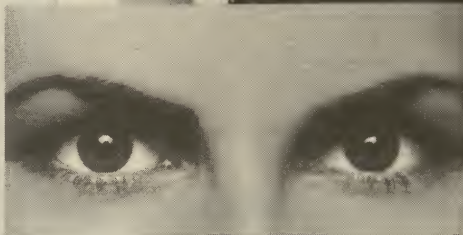
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# Gay docs sue over fed pot harassment

by Cynthia Laird

After the Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR) filed a lawsuit in San Francisco's U.S. District Court February 14, asking that the federal government be enjoined from punishing doctors who distribute or recommend medical marijuana, four other medical groups including the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) have joined in support. Plaintiffs in the *Conant v. McCaffrey* suit include BAPHR, a group of local doctors, and AIDS patients. BAPHR attorney Graham Boyd said a hearing has been scheduled for Friday, March 21.

An affidavit filed with the suit is from Dr. Robert Mastroianni, a doctor in Pollack Pines, near Placerville, California. In January, Mastroianni was visited by federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) agents who ques-

tioned him about recommending medical marijuana for three of his patients, and told him they are investigating his practice.

"We're not terribly surprised," Boyd told the B.A.R., "the federal government's been threatening to do this [investigate doctors] for the past two months."

Boyd was referring to national drug czar retired General Barry McCaffrey and other senior officials in the Clinton administration. Under federal policy that McCaffrey announced in December, doctors who recommend or prescribe marijuana risk the loss of their federal authority to write drug prescriptions, exclusion from Medicare and Medicaid programs, and the possibility of criminal charges.

## Patient-provider relationship

Marj Plumb, director of public policy for GLMA, said the association's amicus brief was filed Friday,



BAPHR attorney Graham Boyd: "We're not terribly surprised."

February 21. Other groups that filed amicus briefs are the California Academy of Family Physicians, the Marin Medical Society, and the San Francisco Medical Society.

"Having these other signers is good, these are all great mainstream organizations," Plumb told

the B.A.R.

Boyd and Plumb explained the amicus brief does not mean the GLMA and the other groups are joining the suit. Rather, the groups have filed the briefs as a show of support. Boyd said that is fairly common, particularly for cases involving major public policy issues.

"I think all parties are happy to have the support," Boyd said. "It's a wide cross-section of the medical community."

Plumb emphasized that GLMA's brief addresses issues around the patient-provider relationship.

"GLMA doesn't believe any provider should be in the closet about anything, including alternative treatments," she said. "The federal government should not be harassing physicians so that they cannot have an open dialogue with patients."

Other points in the brief include First Amendment rights to have uncensored dialogue on

medical matters and that the federal government's policy undermines the traditional physician-patient relationship.

The Pollack Pines physician, Mastroianni, stated in his affidavit that the DEA agents asked him insulting questions and implied he had acted unethically and in violation of the law. He said their questions and comments were "clearly meant to intimidate me and dissuade me from treating certain of my seriously ill patients in accordance with my medical experience and professional judgment," he stated in court papers.

Attempts by the B.A.R. to reach Mastroianni were unsuccessful. A woman at his answering service said she had been "instructed not to take any more messages from reporters."

## Pot and the DPH

In another Proposition 215 development, the San Francisco Health Commission unanimously approved a resolution on February 4 that supports the "responsible implementation of Proposition 215," and encourages the Board of Supervisors to defend a Department of Public Health physician who recommends medical marijuana in a federal administrative or criminal proceeding.

DPH spokeswoman Eileen Shields said that is in the event a DPH physician is ever involved in federal proceedings arising from recommending medical marijuana. No doctor at the DPH is currently facing any government action over medical marijuana, she said.

The resolution also supports more research on the medical benefits of marijuana. Additionally, it states the DPH will work in collaboration with the San Francisco Medical Society and other professional groups to provide educational forums for doctors regarding research findings on marijuana. ▼

## IRS: medical marijuana not deductible

by Bob Roehr

Is medical marijuana a deductible medical expense for residents of California and Arizona now that medical use of the herb was approved by voters? "No," says the tax man.

The Internal Revenue Service quietly published a ruling on Valentine's Day that disallows such deductions. But the rule hits more than individual tax returns, it effectively bars company "cafeteria plans," which offer a range of employee benefits, from covering payment for the weed.

The IRS, which normally works at a glacial pace, moved with lightning speed this time. Attorney Donna Crisalli told the *New York Times*, "The [Clinton] Administration's interest was one of the reasons we looked into it."

In 1978 the IRS ruled that the expense of Laetrile was deductible in states where it was legal, even though two years earlier the Food and Drug Administration had found it had no medicinal value in fighting cancer. That deduction was also removed by the February 14 ruling. ▼

Advertisements do not include all the information about a prescription medication. Only your physician is qualified to decide if a prescription medication is for you.

### ROXANE LABORATORIES, INC.

#### MARINOL<sup>®</sup> (dronabinol)

#### Capsules

(Warning: May be habit forming)

\*The USAN name for delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC).

Brief Summary on Marinol<sup>®</sup> (dronabinol) Capsules.

Before prescribing, see complete prescribing information.

#### INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Marinol (dronabinol) is indicated for the treatment of:

1. anorexia associated with weight loss in patients with AIDS; and

2. nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy in patients who have failed to respond adequately to conventional antiemetic treatments.

#### CONTRAINDICATIONS

Marinol (dronabinol) is contraindicated in any patient who has a history of hypersensitivity to any cannabinoid or sesame oil.

#### WARNINGS

Marinol (dronabinol) is a medication with a potential for abuse. Physicians and pharmacists should use the same care in prescribing and accounting for Marinol as they would with morphine or other drugs controlled under Schedule II (CII) of the Controlled Substances Act. Because of the risk of diversion, it is recommended that prescriptions be limited to the amount necessary for the period between clinic visits.

Patients receiving treatment with Marinol should be specifically warned not to drive, operate machinery, or engage in any hazardous activity until it is established that they are able to tolerate the drug and to perform such tasks safely.

#### PRECAUTIONS

**General:** The risk/benefit ratio of Marinol (dronabinol) use should be carefully evaluated in patients with the following medical conditions because of individual variation in response and tolerance to the effects of Marinol. Marinol should be used with caution in patients with cardiac disorders because of occasional hypertension, possible hypertension, syncope, or tachycardia (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

Marinol should be used with caution in patients with a history of substance abuse, including alcohol abuse or dependence, because they may be more prone to abuse Marinol as well. Multiple substance abuse is common and marijuana, which contains the same active compound as a frequently abused substance.

Marinol should be used with caution and careful psychiatric monitoring in patients with mania, depression, or schizophrenia because Marinol may exacerbate these illnesses.

Marinol should be used with caution in patients receiving concomitant therapy with sedatives, hypnotics or other psychoactive drugs because of the potential for additive or synergistic CNS effects.

Marinol should be used with caution in pregnant patients, nursing mothers, or pediatric patients because it has not been studied in these patient populations.

Marinol should be used with caution for treatment of anorexia and weight loss in elderly patients with AIDS because they may be more sensitive to the psychoactive effects and because its use in these patients has not been studied.

**Information for Patients:** Patients receiving treatment with Marinol (dronabinol) should be alerted to the potential for additive central nervous system depression if Marinol is used concomitantly with alcohol or other CNS depressants such as benzodiazepines and barbiturates.

Patients receiving treatment with Marinol should be specifically warned not to drive, operate machinery, or engage in any hazardous activity until it is established that they are able to tolerate the drug and to perform such tasks safely.

Patients using Marinol should be advised of possible changes in mood and other adverse behavioral effects of the drug so as to avoid panic in the event of such manifestations. Patients should remain under the supervision of a responsible adult during initial use of Marinol and following dosage adjustments.

**Drug Interactions:** In studies involving patients with AIDS and/or cancer, Marinol (dronabinol) has been co-administered with a variety of medications (e.g., cytotoxic agents, anti-infective agents, sedatives, or opioid analgesics) without resulting in any clinically significant drug-drug interactions. Although no drug-drug interactions were discovered during the clinical trials of Marinol, cannabinoids may interact with other medications through both metabolic and pharmacodynamic mechanisms. Dronabinol is highly protein bound to plasma proteins, and therefore, might displace other protein-bound drugs. Although this displacement has not been confirmed in vivo, practitioners should monitor patients for a change in dosage requirements when administering dronabinol to patients receiving other highly protein-bound drugs. Published reports of drug-drug interactions involving cannabinoids are summarized in the following table.

CONCOMITANT DRUG	CLINICAL EFFECT(S)
Amphetamines, cocaine, other sympathomimetic agents	Additive hypertension, tachycardia, possibly cardiotoxicity
Atropine, scopolamine, anticholinergics, other anticholinergic agents	Additive or super-additive tachycardia, drowsiness
Anticholinergics, anticholinergics, other anticholinergic agents	Additive tachycardia, hypertension, drowsiness
Barbiturates, benzodiazepines, ethanol, lithium, opioids, buspirone, anticholinergics, muscle relaxants, other CNS depressants	Additive drowsiness and CNS depression
Disulfiram	A reversible hypotonic reaction was reported in a 28 y/o man who smoked marijuana; confirmed by challenge and rechallenge.
Fluoxetine	A 21 y/o female with depression and bulimia receiving 20 mg/day fluoxetine X 4 days became hypotensive after smoking marijuana; symptoms resolved after 4 days.
Antipyrine, barbiturates	Decreased clearance of these agents, presumably via competitive inhibition of metabolism
Theophylline	Increased theophylline metabolism reported with smoking of marijuana; effect similar to that following smoking tobacco

**Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility:** Carcinogenicity studies have not been performed with dronabinol. Mutagenicity testing of dronabinol was negative in an Ames test. In a long-term study (77 days) in rats, oral administration of dronabinol at doses of 30 to 150 mg/m<sup>2</sup> equivalent to 0.3 to 1.5 times maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) of 90 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day in cancer patients or 2 to 10 times MRHD of 15 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day in AIDS patients, reduced ventral prostate, seminal vesicle and epididymal weights and caused a decrease in seminal fluid volume. Decreases in spermatogenesis, number of developing germ cells, and number of Leydig cells in the testes were also observed. However, sperm count, mating success and testosterone levels were not affected. The significance of these animal findings in humans is not known.

**Pregnancy:** Pregnancy Category C. Reproduction studies with dronabinol have been performed in mice at 15 to 450 mg/m<sup>2</sup> equivalent to 0.2 to 5 times maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) of 90 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day in cancer patients or 1 to 30 times MRHD of 15 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day in AIDS patients or in rats at 74 to 285 mg/m<sup>2</sup> equivalent to 0.8 to 3 times MRHD of 90 mg/m<sup>2</sup> in cancer patients or 5 to 20 times MRHD of 15 mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day in AIDS patients. These studies have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity due to dronabinol. At these dosages in mice and rats, dronabinol decreased maternal weight gain and number of viable pups and increased fetal mortality and early resorptions. Such effects were dose dependent and less apparent at lower doses which produced less maternal toxicity. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Dronabinol should be used only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

**Nursing Mothers:** Use of Marinol is not recommended in nursing mothers since, in addition to the secretion of HIV virus in breast milk, dronabinol is concentrated in and secreted in human breast milk and is absorbed by the nursing baby.

#### ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adverse experiences information summarized in the tables below was derived from well-controlled clinical trials conducted in the US and US territories involving 474 patients exposed to Marinol (dronabinol). Studies of AIDS-related weight loss included 157 patients receiving dronabinol at a dose of 2.5 mg twice daily and 87 receiving placebo. Studies of different durations were combined by considering the first occurrence of events during the first 28 days. Studies of nausea and vomiting related to cancer chemotherapy included 317 patients receiving dronabinol and 88 receiving placebo.

A cannabinoid dose-related "high" (easy laughing, elation and heightened awareness) has been reported by patients receiving Marinol in both the antiemetic (24%) and the lower dose appetite stimulant clinical trials (8%) (see CLINICAL TRIALS).

The most frequently reported adverse experiences in patients with AIDS during placebo-controlled clinical trials involved the CNS and were reported by 33% of patients receiving Marinol. About 25% of patients reported a minor CNS adverse event during the first 2 weeks and about 4% reported such an event each week for the next 6 weeks thereafter.

**PROBABLY CAUSALLY RELATED: Incidence greater than 1%.**

Rates derived from clinical trials in AIDS-related anorexia (N=157) and chemotherapy-related nausea (N=317). Rates were generally higher in the anti-emetic use (given in parentheses).

**Body as a whole:** Asthenia.

Cardiovascular: Palpitations, tachycardia, vasodilation/facial flush.

Digestive: Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting.

Nervous system (Anxiety): Anxiety/nervousness, (taxis), confusion, depersonalization, dizziness, euphoria, (hallucinations), paranoid reaction, somnolence, thinking abnormal.

"Incidence of events 0.2% to 10%."

**PROBABLY CAUSALLY RELATED: Incidence less than 1%.**

Event rates derived from clinical trials in AIDS-related anorexia (N=157) and chemotherapy-related nausea (N=317).

**Cardiovascular:** Congestive heart failure, hypotension.

Digestive: Diarrhea, local intolerance.

Musculoskeletal: Myalgias.

Nervous system: Depression, nightmares, speech difficulties, tinnitus.

Skin and Appendages: Flushing.

Special senses: Vision difficulties.

"Incidence of events 0.2% to 10%."

**CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP UNKNOWN: Incidence less than 1%.**

The clinical significance of the association of these events with Marinol treatment is unknown, but they are reported as alerting information for the clinician.

**Body as a whole:** Chills, headache, malaise.

Digestive: Anorexia, hepatic enzyme elevation.

Respiratory: Cough, rhinitis, sinusitis.

Skin and Appendages: Sweating.

**DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE**

Marinol (dronabinol) is one of the psychoactive compounds present in cannabis, and is abusable and controlled Schedule II (CII) under the Controlled Substances Act. Both psychological and physiological dependence have been noted in healthy individuals receiving dronabinol, but addiction is uncommon and has only been seen after prolonged high dose administration.

Chronic abuse of cannabis has been associated with decrements in motivation, cognition, judgment, and perception. The etiology of these impairments is unknown, but may be associated with the complex process of addiction rather than an isolated effect of the drug. No such decrements in psychological, social or neurological status have been associated with the administration of Marinol for therapeutic purposes.

In an open-label study in patients with AIDS who received Marinol for up to five months, no abuse, diversion or systematic change in personality or social functioning were observed despite the inclusion of a substantial number of patients with a past history of drug abuse.

An abstinence syndrome has been reported after the abrupt discontinuation of dronabinol in volunteers receiving dosages of 210 mg/day for 12 to 16 consecutive days. Within 12 hours after discontinuation, these volunteers manifested symptoms such as irritability, insomnia, and restlessness. By approximately 24 hours post-drug discontinuation, withdrawal symptoms intensified to include "hot flashes", sweating, rhinorrhea, loose stools, tachycardia, and anorexia.

These withdrawal symptoms gradually dissipated over the next 48 hours. Electroencephalographic changes consistent with the effects of drug withdrawal (hyperexcitability) were recorded in patients after abrupt discontinuation. Patients also complained of disturbed sleep for several weeks after discontinuing therapy with high dosages of dronabinol.

#### OVERDOSAGE

Signs and symptoms following MILD Marinol (dronabinol) intoxication include drowsiness, euphoria, heightened sensory awareness, altered time perception, reddened conjunctiva, dry mouth and tachycardia; following MODERATE intoxication include memory impairment, depersonalization, mood alteration, urinary retention, and reduced bowel motility; and following SEVERE intoxication include decreased motor coordination, lethargy, slurred speech, and postural hypotension. Aggravated patients may experience panic reactions and seizures may occur in patients with existing seizure disorders.

The estimated lethal human dose of intravenous dronabinol is 30 mg/kg (2100 mg/70 kg). Significant CNS symptoms in anesthetic studies followed oral doses of 0.4 mg/kg (28 mg/70 kg) of Marinol.

**Management:** A potentially serious oral ingestion, if recent, should be managed with gastric decontamination. In unconscious patients with a secure airway, instill activated charcoal (30 to 100 g in adults, 1 to 2 g/kg in infants) via a nasogastric tube. A saline cathartic or sorbitol may be added to the first dose of activated charcoal. Patients experiencing depressive, hallucinatory or psychotic reactions should be placed in a quiet area and offered reassurance. Benzodiazepines (5 to 10 mg diazepam per kg) may be used for treatment of extreme agitation. Hypertension usually responds to Trendelenburg position and IV fluids. Pressors are rarely required.

#### DOSEAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

**Appetite stimulation:** Initially, 2.5 mg Marinol (dronabinol) should be administered orally twice daily (b.i.d.) before lunch and supper. For patients unable to tolerate this 5 mg/day dosage of Marinol, the dosage can be reduced to 2.5 mg/day, administered as a single dose in the evening or at bedtime. If clinically indicated and in the absence of significant adverse effects, the dosage may be gradually increased to a maximum of 20 mg/day Marinol, administered in divided oral doses. Caution should be exercised in escalating the dosage of Marinol because of the increased frequency of dose-related adverse experiences at higher dosages (see PRECAUTIONS).

**Antiemetic:** Marinol is best administered at an initial dose of 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup>, given 1 to 3 hours prior to the administration of chemotherapy, then every 2 to 4 hours after chemotherapy is given, for a total of 4 to 6 doses/day. Should the 5 mg/m<sup>2</sup> dose prove to be ineffective, and in the absence of significant side effects, the dose may be escalated by 2.5 mg/m<sup>2</sup> increments to a maximum of 15 mg/m<sup>2</sup> per dose. Caution should be exercised in dose escalation, however, as the incidence of disturbing psychiatric symptoms increases significantly at maximum dose (see PRECAUTIONS).

#### SAFETY AND HANDLING

Marinol (dronabinol) should be packaged in a well-closed container and stored in a cool environment between 8° and 15° C (46° and 59° F). Protected from freezing. No particular hazard to health care workers handling the capsules has been identified.

Access to abusive drugs such as Marinol presents an occupational hazard for addiction in the health care industry. Routine procedures for handling controlled substances developed to protect the public may not be adequate to protect health care workers. Implementation of more effective accounting procedures and measures to appropriately restrict access to drugs of this class may minimize the risk of self-administration by health care providers.

#### HOW SUPPLIED

**MARINOL<sup>®</sup> CAPSULES (dronabinol) solution in sesame oil in soft gelatin capsules**

**2.5 mg white capsules (identified RL)**

NDC 0054-2601-11: Bottles of 25 capsules

NDC 0054-2601-21: Bottles of 50 capsules

NDC 0054-2601-25: Bottles of 100 capsules

**5 mg dark brown capsules (identified RL)**

NDC 0054-2602-11: Bottles of 25 capsules

NDC 0054-2602-21: Bottles of 50 capsules

**10 mg orange capsules (identified RL)**

NDC 0054-2603-11: Bottles of 25 capsules

NDC 0054-2603-21: Bottles of 50 capsules

NDC 0054-2603-25: Bottles of 100 capsules

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DEA ORDER FORM REQUIRED

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18428&W (2/97)



# Medical marijuana minuet plays on in DC

by Bob Roehr

Supporters of medical marijuana are smiling after a week of dancing around the issue in Washington, DC. A panel of experts convened by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) concluded that there are legitimate areas of research for the herb. They include AIDS wasting, nausea associated with chemotherapy, symptoms of multiple sclerosis, and glaucoma. A final report will be out in about a month.

The White House has launched a "war on doctors," charged Dave Fratello, spokesman for Americans for Medical Rights, the group behind the California medical marijuana initiative. "There is no scientific or moral basis for [Drug Czar] General McCaffrey" to punish physicians who recommend marijuana for medical purposes, he said at a Tuesday, February 18 news conference.

He cited a nationwide poll of 1,002 people conducted in early February by Lake Research. Sixty percent answered yes to the question, "Should doctors be able to prescribe marijuana for medical purposes to seriously or terminally ill patients?" Only 30 percent said no.

Fratello chastised McCaffrey for claiming there is no research to support the efficacy of marijuana. He pointed to a "compendium of research, over 75 studies and articles in peer review journals which testify to the medical value of marijuana. And it is being ignored."

Gary Rose spoke for the AIDS Action Council. "We are demanding that the DEA [Drug Enforcement Agency] and NIDA [National Institute for Drug Abuse] release marijuana immediately for the FDA-approved study of medical marijuana and AIDS wasting. And second, that the same agencies reopen the treatment IND [Investigative New Drug study] for patients who need medical marijuana now."

He told the audience that half the states under the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) cannot afford to provide existing drugs like protease inhibitors. "They are certainly not going to be able to provide something like Marinol [the THC equivalent of marijuana] at \$1,000 per treatment cycle" for nausea and weight gain.

"We have a drug [in marijuana] that is strongly suggested to be safe and effective. What we need is a Phase II study to define dosages." Rose reminded the group that last week an NIH panel called politics the major impediment to effective prevention policies for HIV. He concluded that "again we have political prejudice overcoming sound principles of public health."

"Those of us who are HIV-positive need access to marijuana," said Steve Michael with ACT UP/Washington. He believes the Clinton administration "looked for the weak link" in their war on drugs and focused on medical use of marijuana and doctors, instead of expanding drug treatment programs.

"We are here to say that it is not going to happen," he vowed.

## The workshop

The NIH conducted a Workshop on the Medical Utility of Marijuana February 19-20. Eight

outside experts heard presentations, deliberated, then unanimously agreed that marijuana "looks promising enough to recommend there should be some controlled studies," according to chair William Beaver, MD. He is professor of pharmacology and anesthesia at the Georgetown University School of Medicine.

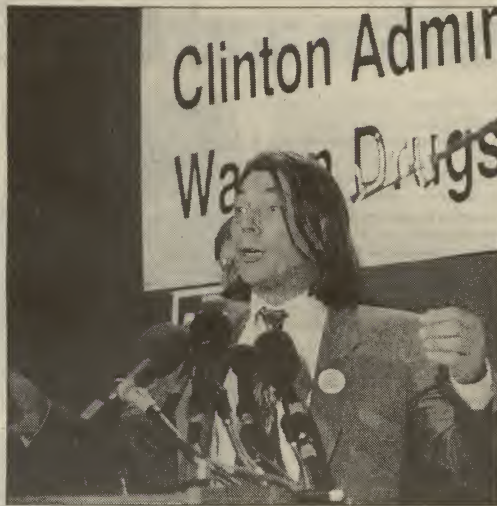
AIDS researcher John P. Phair MD, professor of medicine at Northwestern University Medical School, saw "clear evidence that smoking marijuana does affect caloric intake" in PWAs. He suggested research to learn its impact on viral replication and the immune system. He warned that the current classification of marijuana as a Schedule I drug requires "some protection for participants" in any clinical trial.

Kenneth Johnson MD, chairman of the department of neurology at the University of Maryland Hospital, was excited by recent discoveries (1990 and 1992) of cannabinoid receptors throughout the body. "To lock these advances into our social problems would be a disaster for a lot of people who could benefit" from what we are just beginning to find out.

Epidemiologist Julie E. Buring, from Harvard Medical School, was "extremely respectful of anecdotal data" on effectiveness of marijuana. But she cautioned that it only gives part of the answer, because you tend to hear only from those for whom it worked. She wants to find out for whom it works, and why.

## Smokin'

Avram Goldstein MD, professor emeritus of pharmacology at Stanford University, called smoking "an outstanding route to administer" drugs, because bioavailability is very good and immediate, allowing the patient to regulate the dose to need, "whereas bioavailability by the oral route is both not good and not predictable in general," due to variations in how each body metabolizes drugs and the length of time



Steve Michael: "We are here to say that it is not going to happen."

before they take effect.

Fellow panel member Mark Kris, MD, a physician at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, noted that many people don't like Marinol because "it zones them out." He saw the benefits of administration through the lungs but pointed to the need for "another inhaled vehicle other than smoking." Most hospitals have become smoke-free buildings, many patients have an aversion to smoke, and the group setting in which much chemotherapy is administered would make smoke impractical.

Goldstein said the characteristics of cannabinoids suggest they would be particularly effectively distributed through a skin patch system. That would make sense for situations requiring chronic use of the product, such as treating glaucoma.

Alternative delivery systems may in fact help accomplish two things. First, they could help distinguish medicinal from recre-

ational use. Second, the pharmaceutical industry could see profit in developing these delivery systems and invest in basic research into marijuana and its active properties. That would likely help medical legalization.

But as Goldstein warned, all of these processes take money to develop and gain approval from the FDA. That adds to the final cost borne by the patient. He believes "a plant product could be made available more cheaply and should be put forth into the equation."

## 'Political science'

Reporters at the concluding news conference pressed the panel

members and NIDA director Alan Leshner on whether the problem was scientific or political. The argument was like a dog chasing its tail. Leshner kept saying there was little scientific data and only one request in the last several years to conduct such research. And all the while he ignored political considerations, which effectively closed down that research more than a decade ago.

"So you are saying this is political science," interrupted Steve Michael.

"You don't care about people with AIDS," he shouted. "You're killing us with your stall tactics. You are ignoring science, you are ignoring doctors."

He was escorted from the room still saying, "Shame on you."

Dave Fratello was encouraged by the tone of the meeting and was guardedly optimistic, albeit worried about the politics. "Just because the science moves forward doesn't guarantee that the issue will move forward."

Philadelphia AIDS activist Kiyoski Kuromiya was a member of the "Levine Group" that reviewed all NIH-funded AIDS research last year. He wants to know what NIDA does with their \$400+ million budget. "I don't really know of any science coming out of NIDA," he complained.

He believes the community must be represented on peer panels reviewing marijuana research proposals. "This is an area that hasn't been researched in the past ten years," he observed. "We really need people who are familiar with how these products have been used."

And that means people in the community: they are the ones with the knowledge. ▼

## HIV+ MEN WITH ORAL CANDIDIASIS (THRUSH)

The San Francisco VAMC is conducting a drug study for HIV+ volunteers with oral candidiasis (thrush) who are currently experiencing an episode of thrush. If you are interested in participating in a drug study, please call Sandy at (415) 221-4810 ext. 3763.

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## Young Gay Men's HIV Study

An HIV prevention study funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is recruiting 100 gay men between the ages of 18 and 25 to complete a questionnaire and a test of neuropsychological functioning. Participation in the study will require approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours. A small participant fee will be paid.

If interested, please call 1-800-577-6675 for an appointment.

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## HIV ASSOCIATED

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UCSF AIDS  
Specialists:

Mark Hellerstein, MD. PhD.  
Morris Schambelan, MD.  
Kathleen Mulligan, PhD.

San Francisco General Hospital AIDS Program  
Carr Auditorium on 22nd Street, just east of Potrero Avenue  
Questions, call: (415) 476-4082 extension 118



# 'Star' speakers highlight National Black Lesbian and Gay Conference

by Al Cunningham

Celebrity speakers and strong attendance highlighted the tenth anniversary National Black Lesbian and Gay Conference, convened in Long Beach Presidents' Day weekend. The conference and the two days of institutes which preceded it attracted more than 800 participants, and included plenary addresses by former U.S. Surgeon General Dr. M. Joycelyn Elders; lesbian writer June Jordan; writer Alice Walker; and academic Dr. Cornel West.

An annual event of the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum, the conference was co-chaired by veteran forum activists Valerie Wagner and Troy Fernandez, and marked the conference "debut" for the forum's first executive director, former White House staffer Keith O. Boykin.

Elders spoke Thursday, February 13 to the opening plenary of the AIDS/Healthcare Institute, co-sponsored by the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention. Introducing her, Boykin remarked how accessible she had been as Surgeon General, and referred to her departure from the Clinton Administration in January, 1995 as a "resignation." In the folksy, "down home" manner for which she has become famous, Elders allowed that Boykin was just being "nice" when he said she'd resigned.

"Everybody knows I was fired,"

she laughed, "and if you didn't know it before, you know it now!"

In an eclectic speech, Elders praised the forum for the HIV/AIDS education work it does through its AIDS Prevention Team in Los Angeles. She cited the statistics that one in 32 African-American men is HIV-positive, compared with only one in 94 men in the general population. She spoke of the disproportionate impact of HIV and AIDS on African-American women and children, and the need for targeted, culturally-specific prevention and education.

"When it comes to HIV and AIDS, we're on what I call a 'prevention diet,' with a 'dying appetite,'" she said, adding that "today we no longer need to be teaching people how to die from HIV, but how to live with it and prevent it in the first place."

## East Bay representation

Berkeley-based lesbian poet, essayist, activist, and UC professor June Jordan delivered the conference's opening ceremony address Friday, February 14. Relaxed and giggling, Jordan began by reading two love poems, in honor of Valentine's Day. Expanding on the subject, she spoke of the "strange bedfellows" dichotomy often drawn between sex and politics. "So I'm proud and happy," she said, "that on this occasion, at least, these two spheres of passionate concern fuse, or can be pursued into an equitable coexist-



Honoring our Elders: AIDS activist Reggie Williams (left) meets Dr. Joycelyn Elders following her address.

tence in which the one nourishes the other, and the other then flourishes."

Reciting a litany of hate crimes against lesbians and gay men, and examples of public battles over gay rights, including parenting, Jordan reminded the audience that the personal, or sexual, and the political often intersect in life-and-death collision. Within that

context, Jordan congratulated the forum on the fact that such a conference would exist at all. "Political unity based upon sexuality," she said, "will never achieve lasting, profound victories related to the enlargement of freedom and the broadening of equality of entitlement unless political unity based upon sexuality will become a political unity based upon principles of freedom, and principles of equality."

"Once that political unity becomes principled, then it shall become successful, unified, summoning to other principled men and women who may then choose to coalesce on grounds of principled commitment. ... My personal fight is part of a principled fight for freedom. ... I am struggling to make absolutely manifest a principled commitment to the principles of freedom and equality. I believe this is the righteous struggle I must continue if I hope to deserve coalitional support for my love, my people, my country, my world."

Alice Walker, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Color Purple*, dedicated her Opening Plenary remarks to the memory of the late filmmaker Marlon Riggs, whom she described as "someone who shone; someone who was wonderful; someone whose spirit is still wonderful; a true Aquarian spirit."

Following a reading from the introduction to her newest book on socio-political activism, *Anything We Love Can Be Saved*, due out in April, she announced the theme of her lecture on "decolonization of the spirit": "The Only Reason You Want To Go To Heaven Is That You've Been Driven Out Of Your Mind, Off Your Land, and Out Of Your Lover's Arms: Clear Seeing, Inherited Religion, and Reclaiming the Pagan Self."

This decolonization, she said, is "a crucial act of empowerment, one that might return reverence to the Earth, thereby saving it in this fearful of nature, spiritually colonized age."

Reading from *The Color Purple*, which she said she "always assumed and thought everyone could recognize immediately was

a book about theology," Walker recreated a dialog about the nature of God between two central characters, Celie, "the confused Christian," and Shug, "the pagan." In the course of their discussion, Shug leads Celie away from her vision of God as a big, barefoot, old white man with a long, gray beard and white robe, and around to the pagan perception that "God is everything that is, was, or ever will be."

## A God who worships

Painstakingly, Walker described her own indoctrination into the Christian world of the small town in Georgia in which she grew up the youngest of eight children of a sharecropping family. In this world, everything was subjugated to the whims and dictates of the dominant white culture; even the land on which the little church she attended with her family sat was deeded by whites only so long as services continued to take place there. The Bible was a principal tool of domination, cursing women as evil and non-whites as the "sons of Ham."

"Everyone deserves to worship a God who also worships them," she said, "a God that made them and likes them. That is why nature, Mother Earth, is such a good choice. Never will Nature require that you cut off some part of your body to please it [referring to circumcision]. Never will Mother Earth find anything wrong with your natural way. She made it, and She made it however it is so that you will be more comfortable as part of Her creation, rather than less. Everyone deserves a God who adores our freedom."

"Nature would never advise us to do anything but be ourselves. Mother-Earth will do all that she can to support our choices, whatever they are, for they are of Her and inherent in our creation is Her trust. We are born knowing how to worship, just as we are born knowing how to laugh."

## Truth-telling, witness-bearing

Dr. Cornel West, Professor of Afro-American Studies at Harvard University and the author of



## Lymphocyte Transfer Study

This is a pilot study to determine the safety and effectiveness of transferring lymphocytes (white cells) from and HIV- sibling to their HIV+ sibling.

Main qualifications for the study are:

- ▲ CD4 count of 200 or less
- ▲ a genically compatible sibling
- ▲ stable on antiviral combination for 8 weeks

## Bactrim/Septra Desensitization Study

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

# Conference on Asian & Pacific Islander MSMs slated for Sonoma in March

by Rene M. Astudillo

While the number of reported AIDS cases among Asians and Pacific Islanders (A&PIs) in the United States is less than one percent of the total cumulative US AIDS cases, nearly 70% of those A&PI cases are among men who have sex with men (MSMs). Overall, the incidence of new AIDS cases is increasing more rapidly among gay and bisexual men of color than among white gay and bisexual men. Official epidemiological data show, for example, that the rate of new AIDS cases per

100,000 population among A&PI gay and bisexual men increased by 55% from 1989 to 1995. This is considerably higher than the 14% increase for white gay and bisexual men during the same period.

Despite this alarming trend, the specific needs of A&PI MSMs at risk for HIV infection have scarcely been addressed on a national level. At the same time, very little research has been done on the effectiveness of HIV prevention interventions targeting this population.

It is against this backdrop that a national summit is being convened at the Westerbeke Ranch in Sonoma from March 29-31, 1997.

Some 50 invited researchers and HIV prevention program staff will review both epidemiological data as well as HIV prevention technology and look at how such information and intervention innovations can be transferred to communities serving A&PI MSMs across the country. Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the summit is being organized jointly by the Asian & Pacific Islander American Health Foundation (APIAHF), and the Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center (formerly the Living Well Project and Asian AIDS Project).

According to Ignatius Bau,

HIV program coordinator at APIAHF, the summit will examine previously completed research on HIV prevention interventions targeting A&PI MSMs and identify issues and questions that need to be addressed in future research projects. He added that this will be a unique opportunity for researchers to understand current HIV prevention interventions targeting A&PIs, and conversely, for program staff to learn how to incorporate significant research findings in their interventions.

Pre-summit interviews with the participants will gather information on the accessibility of re-

search studies that may have a significant impact on the planning and implementation of HIV prevention interventions. In many instances, significant research relevant to HIV prevention among A&PIs make it to the scientific journals, but are not filtered to the community-based organizations or target populations that would benefit from such research.

The findings and recommendations of the summit will be documented in a written report to be disseminated to community-based organizations, state and local health departments, state and local community planning bodies, and research institutions. ▼

## Abstinence no longer the only option

# Harm reduction center opens in Oakland

by Cynthia Laird

A set of strategies has been developed that encourages substance users and service providers to reduce the harm done by licit and illicit drug use. In supporting substance users in gaining access to the tools to improve their health and lifestyles, proponents of harm reduction, as it has come to be called, recognize substance users' own competency to protect themselves, their loved ones, and their communities. A step toward making that happen will take place in Oakland on Wednesday, March 5 when a grand opening is held at the new Harm Reduction Center.

The center is a collaboration between the HIV Education and Prevention Project of Alameda County (HEPPAC), and the East

officials, including Nate Miley, an Oakland city council member and vice mayor, and Arnold Perkins, the county's public health director, will be on hand.

A traditional Native American welcoming circle ceremony will be led by Benito Hernandez.

### From ACE to HEPPAC

The Harm Reduction Center represents an extension of other harm reduction activities that a group called the Alameda County Exchange (ACE) started in 1992. ACE operates one of the largest and most successful needle exchange programs in California, serving over 500 people each week.

In January 1995, Miley and several other city council members went to an ACE site in West Oakland to help draw attention to the importance of needle exchange programs and the volun-

ment of harm reduction. However, abstinence represents one end of a continuum of drug using behavior. Conscious, managed use is another valid opinion, according to harm reduction proponents.

According to Michael Shaw, HIV prevention director at the county's AIDS office, injection drug use is the greatest route of HIV infection, both in Alameda

County and across the nation. IDUs, however, are one of the least addressed communities, he added.

"We know that if we would ever hope to get a handle on the situation [of IDU-transmitted infection], we would need to try innovative, creative, and non-traditional methods," Shaw said. "The Harm Reduction Center represents the type of new approach we

need if we hope to stem the tide of the HIV epidemic." ▼

The Harm Reduction Center's grand opening will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. at 3410 E. 12th Street in Oakland, across from the Fruitvale BART Station. For more information, call HEPPAC at (510) 437-8899.

**"Needle exchanges are effective at decreasing the spread of AIDS."— vice mayor Nate Miley**

Bay Community Recovery Project (EBCRP). The project has been funded through the Alameda County Office of AIDS Administration's Education and Prevention Services as a means to reduce the risk of HIV transmission through drug use, especially among injection drug users (IDUs).

Basically, harm reduction is the expansion of an exclusively abstinence-based approach to include methods of helping active drug users manage their addictions and behaviors without necessarily requiring or expecting abstinence.

Located in Oakland's Fruitvale District, the Harm Reduction Center began serving clients in January. The center offers case management, referral to drug treatment and other services, acupuncture (it helps relieve stress and eases drug cravings), as well as HIV education, prevention, and testing. Most of all, the center is a welcoming haven to people who are usually shunned elsewhere, said Camille Anacabe, executive director of HEPPAC.

Anacabe said healthcare professionals are welcome to attend the center's grand opening. Local

teers who ran them.

"We do have documentation that needle exchanges are effective at decreasing the spread of HIV and AIDS," Miley said at the time.

The city council has strongly supported needle exchange doing everything it can to discourage police from citing needle exchange volunteers.

ACE, which started out as a grassroots organization, has evolved into HEPPAC and has expanded the harm reduction concept to other services. The harm reduction theory emerged out of community-based public health interventions like ACE. In Europe and Australia, harm reduction is commonplace in the vocabularies of drug treatment counselors, social worker, and policy makers, Anacabe said.

The harm reduction concept is slowly making its way into the discussions regarding drug treatment in the United States, primarily through the introduction of needle exchange programs across the country, said Anacabe.

Of course, for many, managing their addictions will mean moving toward abstinence, Anacabe added. Drug treatment is also a compo-

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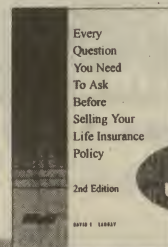
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# Deadline approaching for asylum applicants

by Shan Schwartz

Time is running out for foreign gay and lesbian refugees who have yet to file their applications for political asylum in the United States.

Under the recently-passed "Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996," effective April 1, 1997, applications for political asylum must be filed within one year of arrival in the United States.

For those who have been in

the United States for more than a year, they must file their application by April 1 or else forever forfeit their right to asylum.

Sydney Levy, Asylum Project coordinator with the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission in San Francisco, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that this is a dramatic change in the law, with significant implications for gay and lesbian refugees.

Under current US immigration law, anyone with a well-founded fear of persecution be-

cause of their sexual orientation may be eligible for asylum, Levy said. But just being gay or lesbian doesn't qualify an applicant; the burden rests on the person to prove that they have a well-founded fear of persecution because of past persecution and/or because they have a reasonable fear of persecution if they were returned to their home country.

The change in law doesn't target gays or lesbians in particular, but Levy said that the new filing deadline will be particularly damaging to them. Many refugees find it difficult to apply within one year of their arrival in the United States, he said, and it will be even more difficult for gay and lesbian refugees.

"For someone who fled a country where the government is seeking to arrest, incarcerate, or execute them, it is understandable why they would not run to a

governmental body for protection," he said. "Many gay people learned to stay in the closet because when they didn't, they were persecuted."

Levy said many gay men and lesbians may not even know that asylum is an option; and it is an option they may lose if they do not file by April 1.

Proving an asylum claim is a significant burden, Levy said, and all applicants should carefully consider whether they have a viable claim. He said applicants should review their claim with an experienced attorney before deciding whether or not to file an application.

Lavi Soloway, National Coordinator of the Lesbian and Gay Immigration Rights Task Force in New York City, said the new law will endanger refugees who aren't able to meet, or aren't even aware of, the new filing deadline.

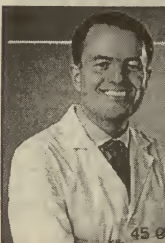
"As a result of the imposition of this arbitrary one-year filing deadline, persons with a well-founded fear of persecution may be deported to dangerous conditions in their country of origin simply because they did not file an application for asylum within the specified time," she said.

Both the Asylum Project and the Task Force are preparing to support applications based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or HIV status. The organizations don't offer direct legal representation, but they do provide information, support, and access to a network of advocates. ▼

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## Bathhouse

◀ page 14

houses should be closed when public hot tub establishments frequented primarily by heterosexuals are allowed to remain open, asking, "Are heterosexuals more trustworthy regarding their sexual behavior?"

The final panelist, Jonathan Klein of Community United for Sexual Privacy (CUSP), noted that with the recent institution of sex club regulations, the city has apparently already answered the question of "Whose responsibility is safer sex?" Klein criticized the DPH sex club policy from two angles: that it is an "improper use of government power," and that it is ineffective and possibly counterproductive in preventing HIV transmission. Klein noted that it was appropriate that the city's bathhouses were closed in 1984, since the closure was a "blatant example of Big Brotherism." Klein pointed out that – unlike the sex club standards – most public health regulations are intended to protect people from the behavior of others, not to force them not to harm themselves. Some of the prohibited behaviors – for example unprotected fisting and unprotected anal sex between two HIV-positive men – "have not been shown to be life-threatening risks."

### Protecting or pandering?

Klein stated – to much applause – that the prohibition of private spaces "gives gay men the message that they cannot take responsibility for themselves." Noting that the men who avoid sex clubs because of the lack of privacy may be among the hardest to reach with education – including married men, questioning men, and men of color – Klein stated that the no-closed-doors policy may be responsible for increased HIV transmission. While sex clubs should provide education and safer sex supplies, they cannot prevent unsafe sex – indeed, there is no definition of safe sex that is applicable at all times to every person – and it is "up to each individual to take responsibility for his own behavior." When asked later whether he favors any safety regulations at all, Klein replied that he does indeed support standards of cleanliness and fire and building safety codes. Klein concluded by asserting that heavy-handed regulation makes people "suspicious of the govern-

ment's competence and motives – are they really trying to protect the gay community, or are they pandering to the fears of straight society?"

Matthew Denckla of the Stop AIDS Project presented the preliminary results of a survey that was conducted about gay men's attitudes toward public sex venues. When asked if they had attended a sex club or bathhouse, 61% said yes and 39% said no. Forty-six percent said they liked such establishments, 26% expressed a "to each his own" attitude, and 25% were either opposed to such venues, thought they were a safety concern, or thought they should be closed or regulated. When asked what they would do if they observed sex without a condom in a sex club or bathhouse, 70% said it would be none of their business, 13% would say something, 2% would give them a condom, 7% would tell the management, and 5% would watch.

Following the panel, the audience had an opportunity to ask questions – an opportunity many took to state their own opinions on the subject. Applauding the Stop AIDS Project for organizing the event, Michael Petrelis stated that "[DPH Director] Sandra Hernandez, [lesbian and gay health liaison] Dana Van Gorder, and Mitch Katz must be taken to task for not organizing a single public forum" on the sex club issue. He exhorted those assembled to "pick up the phone and pick up a pen," stating that "we must flood the AIDS Office" with calls to 554-9000 and letters to 25 Van Ness Avenue.

Tortuga Bi Liberty, noting that the "Department of Public Harassment" only claims jurisdiction over public spaces, questioned whether sex clubs and baths could escape harassment by declaring themselves to be private establishments. Klein responded that while most clubs in the city do in fact claim to be private, the city still apparently regards them as "public." It was noted that a shift in official attitudes about "public" and "private" has taken place over the years. At the time of the Brown Act in 1975, legal opinion held that the decriminalization of sodomy did not apply outside of closed, private spaces. Today, it is sex behind locked doors that is deemed impermissible. Klein pointed out that originally bathhouses were not open gay sex establishments, but that they became so during the gay liberation

era of the 1970s. This openness "backfired" in the 1980s, when such establishments were closed down because they were "too obvious" as sex venues. Other types of establishments – such as bookstores, porn theaters, and public hot tubs – have generally been left alone because they have not been open about being places to have sex.

### Brotherly connection

One audience member pointed out that when people are drunk or high they may not have much control over their bodies. He said he feels an "obligation" and "brotherly connection" to "those gay men in the community who may have low self-esteem, chemical dependency problems, or a lack of willpower." The speaker was met with sustained applause when he asserted that the community cannot simply abandon these people. On a similar note, Queen pointed out that sex club and bathhouse patrons are not all sophisticated long-term members of San Francisco's gay community, but that many are newly out or newly arrived from places where frank information about safer sex is not widely available. Another speaker noted that although "passion sometimes overrides intelligence," an environment such as that of the Steamworks, where safer sex is accepted, makes him "feel perfectly at home in refusing unsafe sex." Paul Cotten, the Steamworks health educator, suggested that the DPH should pay less attention to whether clubs have locked doors – and more attention to who is doing education and whether condoms are available.

When asked if there would be a place for sex clubs if bathhouses reopen, Queen noted that "some people like public sex and voyeurism, and I hope that never changes." Klein believes people should have the choice, and "will vote with their feet and their pocketbooks." O'Hara noted that he "was an exhibitionist before the baths were closed, and will still be one after they reopen."

Klein concluded by saying he was "gratified by the level of interest – maybe we really do have the power to change things." Answering a rhetorical question about whether we can have all the sex we want, with as many partners as we want, and still stop AIDS transmission, Denckla brought the forum to a close by saying, "Yes, we can." ▼



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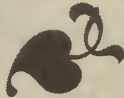
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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

**Gary F. Bowman**

Sept. 15, 1944 - Jan. 30, 1997



Gary died after a long battle with AIDS. He will be remembered by his family and friends for his great sense of humor and the dignity with which he handled his illness.

He is survived by his mother, Erika, and his sister, Carol Boersma. There was a memorial service at the Most Holy Redeemer Church on February 4.

Gary's ashes were strewn over San Francisco Bay as he had requested. He will always be near the city he loved so much.

Gary will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was a kind and loving soul.

**Adam Harris**

We will remember our friend Adam Harris as he was in life - generous, charming and vibrant. A transplanted New Yorker, he graced the Bay Area for 20 years until, at age 48, he lost his hard-fought battle with cancer. Of his

many beautiful qualities, his ability to turn mundane or unpleasant circumstances into an adventure will be missed the most.

I thought I'd have a lifetime/what's left of one at least/I forgot about the darkened wood/the nature of the beast we walked along in sunlight/no special place to be/then he took a side trail/turned and said good-bye to me that trail remains a mystery/no beginning and no end/no single sign to help me find/what happened to my friend

I walk along in shadow now/deeper into the wood/I know he knew I'd miss him/that much was understood  
Love - Rose, Carlos, Pam and Craig

**John Sanchez Merritt**

May 24, 1958 - Feb. 3, 1997

John was born in Cleveland, Ohio, but made San Francisco his permanent home. His love of music, dancing and his never-ending search for all the good things in life made him special to everyone he met. An open house and celebration of his life will be held at his home on Saturday, March 1, at 5 p.m.

**Joseph Niedo**

July 3, 1963 - Jan. 24, 1997



Joey came to SF from Oklahoma 12 years ago. His partner, Jerry Herriger, died of AIDS in 1993. Joey then got busy giving his time to others who were ill as an in-home caregiver until his own failing health forced him to slow down.

Joey was active in the Native American AIDS Project. He represented NAAP at the Native American Conference on AIDS in New Mexico in 1994. He will be truly missed.

Joey is survived by his mother, Charlene Bankus, and brother, Tim, both of Oklahoma. He also leaves numerous relatives in New Mexico, Arizona and Southern California. In the Bay Area, he is mourned by his special friend of several years, Robert Turner;

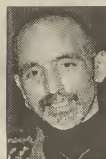
his roommate, Rob Rhudy; and others.

After his funeral at Central Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, Joey was buried in Concho Cemetery. A memorial service in San Francisco will be conducted by NAAP counselor Barbara Graumann at the Baha'i Center (170 Valencia St.) on Sunday, March 9, 5-7 p.m.

Joey's family was hit with three deaths in a few weeks. Anyone who would like to help defray the funeral costs should send their contribution to Eisenhower Funeral Home, 5005 S.E. 29th, Oklahoma City, OK 73115.

**Bob Vargas**

July 3, 1954 - Jan. 25, 1997



Bob Vargas (better known as Vargas), a longtime Sonoma County AIDS activist, died January 25. He is survived by his longtime partner, Rane Richardson; his dog, Terra; and many loving

friends, who will miss his flamboyant enthusiasm, his passion and energy, and his fashion sense. He is also survived by two sisters, two aunts and his mother.

Born in Cienfuegos, Cuba, Vargas was sent to live in the U.S. when the Cuban revolution began in 1960. He was educated with mostly other Cuban children in Catholic schools in Miami.

Vargas was extremely active in AIDS-related organizations, including the Sonoma County AIDS Commission, the State of California AIDS Consortium, AIDS Ministry Outreach of the Catholic Diocese of Santa Rosa, and county World AIDS Day celebrations. He received the Jeremy Bell Award in 1994.

Vargas also served on the board of directors of the Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee, and he wrote a column, reviews and news articles for *We the People*.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 1, at 2 p.m. at the Guerneville Community Church, 14520 Armstrong Woods, in Guerneville. For more information, call 707/544-8773 or 707/793-0340.

# Ritonavir may interact with ecstasy

by Cynthia Laird

A report of a gay English man who died from what was initially thought to be an overdose of the popular dance-floor drug ecstasy has revealed the protease inhibitor ritonavir may have played a substantial role by dramatically increasing the amount of the illegal drug in his bloodstream. Locally, Project Inform told the *Bay Area Reporter* on Tuesday, February 25 that it will have information available on the PI hotline and web site "in a few days." Physicians who treat HIV/AIDS patients are expected to be informed through the Department of Public Health (DPH).

The Chicago office of Abbott Laboratories, the manufacturer of ritonavir, did not return phone calls from the B.A.R. However, it is believed the company will send a statement about the possible interaction to clinicians who specifically request the information.

Philip Kay, 32, died last October in London. His partner, Jim Lumb, posted the information about Kay's death on the Internet earlier this month. According to Lumb, toxicology reports showed the amount of MDMA in Kay's bloodstream to be equivalent to 22 tablets of ecstasy, "and not the 2 and one-half tablets he was known to have taken."

MDMA is a psychoactive drug that is the main ingredient in what is sold as ecstasy and commonly used by nightclubbers.

An investigation was conducted using tablets from the same batch with no ill effects, Lumb added.

The February issue of *AIDS Treatment Update* states that Abbott has confirmed that there could be an interaction between ritonavir and ecstasy. However, the company will not issue a protective warning to doctors and patients, citing restrictions in the drug licensing laws, the illegality of ecstasy, and the lack of hard evidence that the interaction will affect everyone who takes both drugs, according to the publication.

**Other drug interactions**

In his Internet message, Lumb said that Abbott Labs in England has responded "in a very carefully worded letter" from senior medical advisor Dr. P. Kon that sets out the projected interaction between ritonavir and recreational drugs.

When using ecstasy MDMA and ritonavir, there's an increase in MDMA concentration of two- to three-fold at most. Kon's letter also states that three to ten percent of the Caucasian population have a genetically inherited deficiency in metabolizing MDMA. As a result, if these people use ecstasy and ritonavir, they could have higher MDMA concentrations, as much as five- to ten-fold.

Kon's letter also contains information about other recreational drugs when taken with ritonavir.

- Heroin: a moderate decrease in heroin concentration.
- Methadone: a large increase

in the concentration of methadone.

• Cocaine: interaction is unlikely because the drug is metabolized by a pathway not known to be affected by ritonavir.

• Amphetamine: an increase in concentration of two- to three-fold.

Ben Cheng, information coordinator at Project Inform, told the B.A.R. that Abbott Labs can't do a drug interaction study because ecstasy is illegal. He said that any information Abbott has regarding the interaction between ritonavir and illegal drugs should be sent to doctors.

**City health response**

Dana Van Gorder, the DPH coordinator of lesbian and gay health services, told the B.A.R. that he will meet with people in the medical and AIDS fields to talk about ways to get the word out about this possibly dangerous drug interaction.

"Hopefully, we'll sit down on Friday," Van Gorder said. "We want to communicate with physicians' networks and HIV doctors so they can give patients some information."

Van Gorder has also contacted Dr. Mitch Katz, AIDS Office director, to see if he can get information from Abbott Labs. ▼

**Project Inform's hotline number is (415) 558-9051 or (800) 822-7422. Their web site is <http://www.projinf.org> or <ftp://ftp.hivnet.org>**



## HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

# Crixivan and kidneys: careful!

by Stephen LeBlanc,  
ACT UP/Golden Gate  
Writers Pool

Three reports of kidney failure, possibly associated with Crixivan, have surfaced in the last two weeks, focusing attention on the need for kidney monitoring when taking the powerful protease inhibitor. Crixivan, currently the most widely used, and most potent, anti-HIV drug, has been available by prescription since mid-1996, and is one of the drugs that has rekindled hope for many with HIV and dramatically reduced deaths from AIDS since its introduction. The drug is documented to cause formation of painful kidney stones and back and flank pain in four percent of patients in clinical trials who took the drug, though some AIDS activists and doctors have stated they believe the incidence is more frequent. These recent reports are the first of kidney failure, a far more serious and life-threatening condition. Although incidence of kidney failure do not seem widespread, AIDS activists are urging care by those using the drug and a need for more research by the drugs manufacturer, Merck Pharmaceuticals.

The first known public report of Crixivan-associated kidney failure was presented three weeks ago at the Reproductive Tract and HIV Transmission Conference by Dr. Michael Coburn, Chief of Urology at Ben Taub County Hospital in Texas and a Baylor College Medical School Professor. Dr. Coburn reported two patients on Crixivan were seen in the hospital's emergency room suffering from acute kidney failure, neither with a history of kidney stones.

"These patients presented with classic signs of kidney failure: nausea, fatigue, drowsiness," recounts Dr. Coburn, "and one of the patients hadn't urinated in

three days. The patients claimed to be drinking adequate water, as recommended with Crixivan. We found that in both patients, the left and right ureter (the vessel that allows urine and waste to empty out of the kidneys into the bladder) were completely blocked with crystalized drug and other material, causing renal failure. In both cases, we were able to clear out the blockage and the patients' kidney functions returned to normal."

Dr. Coburn noted that these two cases were unusual in that there was not the sharp pain that often alerts a patient to the presence of a kidney stone. However, the kidney failure appears to have been caused by the drug returning to a solid form in the urinary tract, the same mechanism by which Crixivan is known to cause kidney stones.

A more mysterious, and tragically fatal, kidney and heart failure occurred three weeks ago in St. Louis, in a 28-year-old patient on Crixivan since December. "This patient came in with an irregular heart rate of about 120," reports the attending physician. "While not immediately life-threatening, this is very uncomfortable for the patient. At admission, his kidney function tests were normal, with a creatinine of 1.1, a BUN of 8, and normal urine. He was taking d4t, 3TC, Crixivan for HIV, and famciclovir for resistant herpes simplex."

"We gave him one dose of Metoprolol, a beta-blocker, which returned his heart rate to normal within 24 hours, and he seemed stable. The following day his heart got slower and slower, from 80, down to 30. When it was clear he was having some distress, we questioned him and he said he hadn't urinated in 12 hours. We

immediately placed a catheter to drain his bladder, but found no urine and became very alarmed and transferred him to the intensive care unit. His creatine level, which had been normal two days earlier, was up to 4.0, which is extremely high and indicates kidney malfunction."

"In the ICU, he experienced rapid kidney failure, elevated potassium in the blood, acidosis, and despite efforts to stabilize him with bicarbonate and insulin, he went into cardiac arrest. He was successfully resuscitated once for an hour, but went into arrest again and died. This was a young, athletic, and

in-shape guy, a fitness trainer, and though his T-cells were down around 68, he had never had an OI and he was generally healthy. We did an extensive autopsy, and found no evidence of any other drug use, and no evidence of infections anywhere or of spetis, and it is hard to attribute the acute kidney failure to HIV. Even after the autopsy, we still don't know what pericaped the renal failure. There was no evidence of stones in either kidney. The only drug he was taking that is known to have adverse kidney impact was Crixivan, though I haven't heard about direct kidney toxicity from the drug not associated with kidney stones, as we had here"

The doctor, clearly troubled by the unexplained death, went on to say, "I've had two other pa-

tients with Crixivan related kidney stones, one very large causing a complete obstruction of his left ureter and left kidney and I remain concerned about stones with patients on Crixivan. You often don't get a warning about the presence of a stone until it drops into the ureter. Stones can be detected with X-rays, but I can't imagine doing that regularly for everyone on Crixivan. However, traces of blood in the urine, not visible to the naked eye, can be quickly tested for in a doctor's office. There is no recommendation from the company [Merck] for regular urine screening, but maybe there should be."

## Local doctors' stories

Queries put to two San Francisco HIV specialists, and to a world-wide internet discussion group for Crixivan users and prescribers, turned up no additional reports of kidney failure, so there is hope that these incidents will remain very uncommon. However, flank pain and stones remain common side effects. San Francisco's Dr. Steven Deeks and Dr. Marge Poscher, each report a handful of cases of kidney stones and flank pain, but no cases of more serious kidney failure.

"Out of probably more than 200 patients for whom I've prescribed Crixivan, I've only had a handful who've had problems with serious flank pain," reports Poscher. "When a patient has flank pain, I have them double the amount of water they are drink-

ing, from eight eight-ounce glasses per day to 16. I put one patient on a saline I.V. in my office until the pain cleared up. I've only had to switch one person off Crixivan to another protease inhibitor because of repeated kidney problems, and he's doing fine."

"But I stress to all my patients taking Crixivan the importance of drinking eight full glasses of water everyday: not coffee, not tea, not cola, all of which are diuretic and so don't help flush the kidneys as much, but water."

"I think regularly drinking a constant amount of water is the key and never letting yourself become dehydrated," states urologist Coburn. "People don't need to drink so much that they are uncomfortable, but they should never get dehydrated. We generally see more kidney stones in the South, because getting dehydrated is more common."

Coburn also stresses the importance of quick treatment if kidney failure is suspected. "People who stop urinating normally need to see a doctor immediately, and the same for anyone who sees blood in their urine," he said, "though neither of these symptoms are always present when there is renal failure."

Merck maintains a toll-free phone number for people to report any adverse side-effects from the drug. It is important for the well-being of everyone taking Crixivan, that patients report all adverse experiences with the drug. The number is 1-800-927-8888. ▼



## Black confab

◀ page 24

several books, including *Race Matters* and *Keeping Faith*, gave the closing ceremony keynote on "struggling with evil," which he defined as "forms of unjustified suffering, of unwarranted pain, unmerited grief, undeserved harm, unnecessary misery."

West's address skillfully combined references to lyrics of popular songs by Roberta Flack and Marvin Gaye with linguistic derivations of the word "human," from the Latin verb, "to bury," delivered in a classic black ministerial style. The discussion of struggling with evil, West said, "becomes even more complicated when we come to America. How are you going to raise the problem of evil in a civilization that views itself as 'a city on a hill,' above history?"

"How are you going to raise the problem of evil to a civilization that... has most direct access to the highest power, the chosen people, the exceptional people, the freest, the most democratic, the most enlightened people? They already feel they have a monopoly on the truth and the good."

West contrasted the sentimentality, its underlying cynicism, and the denial with which America prefers to view itself with the perspective of "blues people," who, he

said, are neither sentimental nor cynical, but "about struggle, gut-bucket sophistication, funky refinement... straight ahead, courage to be, courage to love." These are people who "were willing to dig deep within the abyss called the self, and find there the best of their history, their grandmothers and grandfathers, and, with a dialectical critique, preserve the love and call into question the limitations and the blind-nesses. And then to project that freely, to be free inside of oneself such that one could speak one's own truths and bear one's own witness, even if it's filtered through a European instrument called a saxophone."

Referring to the forum, West said, "This organization is in the tradition of truth-telling and witness-bearing that acknowledges the diversity and differences within the black community but speaks that truth with love, saying, 'We're going to stand on the truth as we understand it precisely because we know that to be marginal at times means precisely to see deeper than those folk in the mainstream.' In these very, very difficult days in which the darkness and thunder are roaring, let us still keep our heads to the sky, let us still keep our hands on the plough, because what you're doing is still making a difference. It may be unacknowledged, it may be unadvertised, unsolicited, but you're making a difference." ▼

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# Work? 'Out!'

by Jim Provenzano

UCSF is currently spending \$3.5 million of your tax dollars to do a multiple-city phone survey of gay and bisexual men. This survey was touted last year in this very newspaper. Sounds worthy, no?

Well, no, actually. The survey, while aimed at gay and bisexual men, is supposed to be a random data survey, which means that many, many random phone calls must be made to find these gay and bisexual men. These calls are actually made by a contractor, Survey Methods Group, who are responsible for calling thousands of people, asking them to do a one-hour survey on just about everything sexual and health-related.

Many gay and bisexual men who, although having repeatedly said that they did not wish to answer the likes of "Have you ever been fisted?" over the phone with a total stranger, have endured the sometimes 20 to 35 repeat phone calls that employees of Survey Methods Group use to get this information, which include dozens of "hang up on your phone machine" calls, since employees do not leave messages. You might want to do the same to them at (415) 495-6692. The address of Survey Methods Group is 140 Second Street, fourth floor, for any annoyed readers who want to show their gratitude in person.

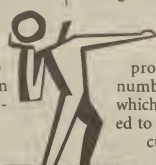
Ah, how can I ever forget it, "Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I'm calling from the UCSF. We're conducting a health survey in San Francisco. This information will be used by public healthcare

workers to develop health information for your community. Blah, blah, blah..."

Then the cubicle employee, many of whom visually resemble Dilbert, but with no punch line, tries to get the sexual activities out of the people the computer randomly calls.

## \*69 cocksuckers

A majority of these people called are neither male, nor gay. Most don't even speak English. Trying to get the answer to "Have you ever had sex with a man since age 14?" from an 89-year-old Chinese grandfather who lives in the



**Sports Complex**

avenues makes about as much sense as the automaton process of dialing these numbers, even more of which are not even connected to a phone, yet the lowly cubicles, at a lowly \$7 an hour, dial these numbers to nowhere up to 40 times.

The absurdity of the survey, which precludes using any of the gazillions of gay info databases that the likes of Sean Strubco will gladly sell to any buyers (including right-wing Christian groups), is that we're supposed to learn the shocking facts that:

1. gay men are having sex;
2. sometimes they use drugs and drink;
3. sometimes they're not so safe about sex;
4. sometimes they feel sad about life;
5. some of them have HIV.

These and other earth-shattering discoveries will be tabulated into information that will allow even more of your dollars to be spent on more surveys to call up heterosexual families having din-



Barbell beauties do the old squat-and-thrust after a hard day at the office.

ner to ask if they or anyone in their family is a homosexual. These people are called over and over again until the cubicles cull the facts from the "respondents," unless, after about six times of screaming, "Don't call me ever again!" (coded on callers' comments screens as a Soft Refusal) and the \*69-ed response, "I'm going to call the police on you, you goddamn cocksuckers!" (coded on comments screens as a Hard Refusal), the dialing drones finally desist.

Not only is this survey a complete and utter waste of money (for more on AIDS money wasted, just read any of the articles about other bloated UCSF surveys, along with the many back-room deals UCSF Regents are making with pharmaceutical companies and Stanford: the list goes on), it is also an utter waste

of time for the people employed by this company, one of whom can best be described with a term used more often in a kennel. This creature finally freed this reporter from being employed at Survey Methods Group, and I am eternally grateful for being shown the way to the door. I bid farewell with the quaint Italian phrase, "Io maledice voi morire," which basically means, "Have a nice day."

What I found most amusing was her lack of facility, whilst firing me, in even remembering my name, I being merely cubicle #475 at station #37.

## Creating homophobia

But this is not the reason for the rant. A columnist using his own petty grievances as feudal fodder? Heavens, no.

The problem, aside from the usual government waste and employee abuse, is that this survey is creating homophobia. People who may have never been homophobic are sure to become homophobic when quizzed over the phone by some drone about their sexual proclivities.

Imagine Mr. Happy Hetero sitting in his living room with his wife and kids, settling down to a rerun of *Roseanne's Coach Improvement*, when he gets a call from \_\_\_\_\_, asking him if he's had sex with any men since age 14.

A cold sweat breaks out on his forehead, that odd moment in the I-5 restroom way back in 1974 flashes into his frontal lobe. His wife looks concerned, the inevitable "Honey, what's wrong?" perched on her lips. The husband's mind reels with paranoia, shame, and a sliver of sexual excitement as the two percent of him that is bisexual comes back to haunt him in the loaded question of a tea-sipping cubicle on 120 Second Street, 4th floor.

"What was that all about?" the wife asks.

"Oh, they were doing a survey just for men who've had sex with men," he mutters.

Two hours later in bed, the wife asks, "Well, have you?"

Two weeks later, the freshly-divorced husband unleashes his rage with an item purchased at the handy Gun Store, located only half a block from Survey Methods Group, which, as I said, is at 140 Second Street, fourth floor.

This situation is no better for homos. In fact, more of the gay men I finally talked with were even more upset with being harassed over the phone than the straight people.

The results of this survey, after

the untold damage? This "firm grasp of the obvious research" will gain nothing but more over-designed posters in toilets and bus stops citywide, and more money for the likes of Dr. Joe Catania, the head of this too-little, too-late survey, which by the way, in its section on drugs, makes no inquiries into tobacco abuse, one of the major killers of lesbians and gay men.

## Working vs. working out

What's this got to do with Sports, you ask? Well, let's face it, many of you dear readers have boring jobs (like me, until recently), and it takes all your energy to suffer through them day after day. The last thing you want to do is go off and wait in line through "cocktail hour" at Muscle Sissies and get even more grief, some of it whilst nude, so what you do is go right home, maybe wait for the phone to ring, when who should it be but some cubicle from UCSF wanting to know when you first had "Receptive Anal Intercourse!"

The dilemma, if you choose to keep your hateful job, is not to let that interfere with your health, since many jobs, like at Survey Methods Group, are damaging to eyes (screen radiation and glare), ears (repeated fax emissions and obscenities conveyed through faulty headsets), spine (lousy chairs and poor-posture-inducing cubicles), hands (carpal tunnel incurred by dialing, dialing, dialing!), diet (the handy break room features a lovely selection of candy, sodas, and more candy), self-image (being sexually harassed by one uniquely unattractive co-worker after another), and general mental health (somehow being told to fuck off 20 times a day on the phone isn't so hot for morale!).

Suffice it to say that one must realize that a job is nothing but a place to relax and digest your food, think about what you're going to do afterward, and recover from your work-outs. This is why I recommend working out before working it out. Instead of expunging the negative energy from a hateful job, one should work out with a clean, fresh, and relaxed mind, and save all that negativity for employment.

Save the stress for your boss. That's what they're there for. And the next time you get a call from \_\_\_\_\_ at UCSF, give them a Hard Refusal. Because the information's all being tabulated in North Carolina, and you know how popular we are down there. ▼

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# BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

## LEGAL NOTICES

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211191

The following person(s) are doing business as CITY GIFTS, 2744 Hyde St., San Francisco, CA 94109: Julio E. Herrera, 2391 Bryant St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 3, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Julio E. Herrera. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 3, 1997. Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211098

The following person(s) are doing business as D.C.H. PRODUCTIONS, 25 Noe St. #1, San Francisco, CA 94114: Drew Christian Holweber, 25 Noe St. #1, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan. 30, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Drew Holweber. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 30, 1997. Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211000

The following person(s) are doing business as MAIDENSTONE ENTERPRISES, 3845 Cesar Chavez St., San Francisco, CA 94131: Geoffrey King, 3845 Cesar Chavez St., San Francisco, CA 94131: Jana King, 3845 Cesar Chavez St., San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a husband and wife. Signed Jana King. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 28, 1997. Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 210907

The following person(s) are doing business as GOLDEN TOUCH CLEANING SERVICES, 2390 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103: Guiselle Mendietta, 80 Ellington Ave., San Francisco, CA 94112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan. 23, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Guiselle Mendietta. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on January 23, 1997. Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211215

The following person(s) are doing business as DAYNE ENTERPRISES, 1407 Sanchez Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010; Eric William Jones, 1407 Sanchez Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010: Valerie Taylor-Jones, 1407 Sanchez Ave., Burlingame, CA 94010. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a husband and wife. Signed Eric Jones. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 4, 1997.

Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 1997.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 984517

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of WALTER EUGENE KILLEEN, JR. for change of name. The application of WALTER EUGENE KILLEEN, JR. for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that WALTER EUGENE KILLEEN, JR. has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to DARALT. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 13th day of March, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 6th day of February, 1997. Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 1997.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 984546

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of LAWRENCE JACK MURPHY for change of name. The application of LAWRENCE JACK MURPHY for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that LAWRENCE JACK MURPHY has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to JACK MURPHY. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 27th day of March, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 7th day of February, 1997. Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211386

The following person(s) are doing business as COMMONWEALTH PROPERTIES, 11 Commonwealth Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118: David Alan Suzuki, 11 Commonwealth Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed David Alan Suzuki. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 10, 1997. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211427

The following person(s) are doing business as ROB'S CLEANING SERVICE, 584 Castro St., Suite #395, San Francisco, CA 94114: Robert P. Fremin, 135 Gardemside Dr., #110, San Francisco, CA 94131. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 11, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Robert P. Fremin. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1997. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211422

The following person(s) are doing business as AFFILIATED LIMOUSINE SERVICE, 25 Poncetta Dr. #130, Daly City, CA 94015: Waleed Ahmad Albawayh, 25 Poncetta Dr. #130, Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Waleed Albawayh. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1997. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211523

The following person(s) are doing business as RUNWAY, 535 Stockton St. #84, San Francisco, CA 94108: Joy Johnson, 535 Stockton St. #84, San Francisco, CA 94108: Robert Radosta, 96 Museum Way, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Joy Johnson and Robert Radosta. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 14, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211457

The following person(s) are doing business as ABOVE AND BEYOND PAINTING, 173 Anderson St., San Francisco, CA 94110: Alison M. Heather, 173 Anderson St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Alison Heather. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 12, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

### FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211400

The following person(s) are doing business as THE BLUE PINECONE, 1214 Diamond St., San Francisco, CA 94131-1822: Mark Richard Jawgiel, 1214 Diamond St., San Francisco, CA 94131-1822. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 11, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Mark R. Jawgiel. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 11, 1997.

## LEGAL NOTICES

Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 984826

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON for change of name. The application of KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to KRISTEN MICHELLE CAMERON PEACE. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 2nd day of June, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 21st day of February, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 984827

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of WAYNE THOMAS PEACE DAVIS for change of name. The application of WAYNE THOMAS PEACE DAVIS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that WAYNE THOMAS PEACE DAVIS has filed an application proposing that HIS

name be changed to WAYNE THOMAS CAMERON PEACE. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 2nd day of June, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 21st day of February, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

### ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 983649

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of PAULI CHEN BY YI FENG CHEN (FATHER) for change of name. The application of PAULI CHEN for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that PAULI CHEN has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to MICHAEL CHEN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 8th day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 20th day of February, 1997. Feb. 27, March 6, 13, 20, 1997.

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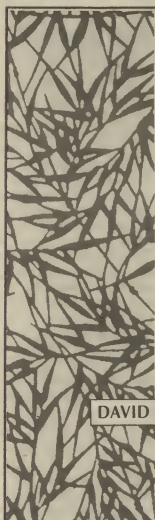
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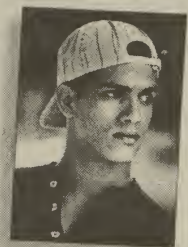
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Von Buchau weighs in on SF Ballet's hit and miss Program II and SF Opera's strange season in 'the barn.'

page 44 - 45

Deborah Peifer revisits history with 'The American Woman's Almanac.'

page 47



Music man Tom Orr takes famous showtunes and makes them dirty.

page 42



# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 9 • 27 February 1997

## Postmodern noir

by Gary Morris

Bill Pullman stars as Fred Madison in *Lost Highway*

David Lynch's *Lost Highway* crackles with macabre energy



Patricia Arquette as Renee Madison

**O**kay. Let's try to get this straight. In David Lynch's *Lost Highway*, Fred Madison (Bill Pullman) is a saxophone player working at the too-aply named Club Luna. He's married to Rene (Patricia Arquette), and they live in a sparsely furnished, '50s-style apartment in Los Angeles. Somebody leaves a videotape on their front door that shows their place is being watched. A second videotape reveals the inside of their flat, suggesting that an intruder has been there. They have sex, which makes Fred act crazy. Then they go to a party where they meet a "demon" (Robert Blake) who tells them he's also been in their apartment. This drives Fred even crazier than the sex. When he and Rene get home from the party, Fred is afraid they are not alone, so he investigates. The apartment suddenly becomes a sort of "Amityville Horror" house — weird noises, elongated hallways, rooms filled with blinding light — and Fred goes so crazy he kills Rene. Next, Madison is convicted of murder, goes to jail, has terrible headaches, and wakes up in his cell as another person, Pete Dayton (Balthazar Getty), who has a whole new set of adventures that don't have much to do with what happened to Fred Madison. This covers the first 20 minutes or so of this 135-minute film. Get the picture?

*Lost Highway* is Lynch's modern fantasy take on film noir, and it's fascinating and confusing in equal parts. Co-scripted by noir impresario Barry Gifford (whose Black Lizard publishing imprint revived a whole generation of early noir writers for modern fans), the film has the usual elements of the genre. There's the good girl and the temptress figure, both played by the same actress, Patricia Arquette. The good Patricia is Bettie Page look-alike Rene Madison; the bad one is sleazy, peroxide blond Alice Wakefield. And there's the clas-

**Fred Madison perfectly summarizes the skewed story when he says, "I like to remember things my own way — not necessarily the way they happened."**

sic fall-guy set-up where a young "innocent" guy, Pete, is secretly screwing the main squeeze of a powerful crime lord, Mr. Eddy (Robert Loggia), and gets seduced into a life of crime. There's an "evil underworld" that is constantly impinging on what passes for the real world, in this case a porn empire run by Mr. Eddy and starring the seemingly abused Alice. The noir overlay is fleshed out with recurring motifs like wailing saxophones and long shots of the endless lost

page 40 ►

SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



# Que sera sera

Southern Exposure exhibit trades in the many shades of ennui

by Steven Jenkins

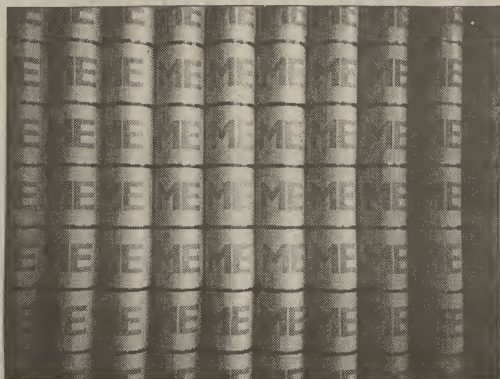
The word "whatever" connotes vastly different meanings depending on when and how it is used. Phrased with conviction and good cheer, it can signify arms-wide-open endorsement of all proclivities, as in "Whatever turns you on, man." This was the 1970s "whatever." In the '80s, the word was stolen by the upwardly mobile as part of the greed-is-good yuppie credo: "I'll do whatever it takes to get that promotion." Now, in a decade dripping with irony and drowning in ennui, the word functions as an eye-rolling kiss-off to just about everything. The fuck-all anarchy of "Smells Like Teen Spirit" — in which Kurt Cobain pegged slacker indifference with the line "Oh well, whatever, never mind" — transformed The Big W into a supremely satisfying generational code for ultra-denial. From the mouths of valley girls, riot grrrls, and conspiracy theorists alike, "whatever" is shot like a rubber-band at political poseurs, lame bands, and clueless morons who don't know which one's Mulder and which one's Scully.

Which brings us to "whatever..." the current mixed-media group show at Southern Exposure. Curated by Ella Delaney and Eugene Marsh, the exhibition, according to its announcement poster, "defies attempts at categorization, conflating ideas and disciplines in seemingly haphazard, often improbable ways. Undermining conventional expectations, this cross-fertilization bacchanal mixes the visual and the verbal, pop culture and high cul-

ture." In other words, "anything goes" — a surprisingly '70s version of "whatever," updated with a twist of '90s avant-garde satire that sneers, "If you have to ask, you can't understand it." Or, maybe, there's just not that much here to "get."

So what is here? Near the gallery entrance is a wall of Polaroid portraits taken at the exhibition opening last month, at which visitors passed through Guy Overfelt's metal detector and were subject to search by security personnel. Snapshots of the violators, signed by Overfelt, were then offered for sale at \$10 each. I missed the opening — whatever — but can imagine how exciting it must have been to undergo an airport experience amidst all those black-clad art-party types. Traipsing past the velvet-rope security barrier, now pushed to the side of the gallery entrance and looking impotent without a bouncer in sight, you can browse in Cheryl Meeker's mock department store installation, *Spring*. Standing near a tacky pink and purple carpet is a display rack of black and beige tote bags, "on sale" for \$19.97 and decorated with floral "Spring" tags. Trust me, you don't need one.

Mungo Thomson's *Seascape* lights up the gallery with its thousands of shiny blue sequins hanging from nails in a shimmering square. Thomson also shares with us on videotape his *Hypnotic Induction Profile*, in which he's taught how to trance out by an encouraging proctor, whose evaluation sheets hang near the monitor. Thomson scored a 32 on the "Mindstyles" questionnaire! It's difficult to judge Kelli Yon's mind-



Close-up of Samuel Yates' unforgettable "Self-portrait."

style from her intriguing series of five color photographs, *Mrs. Smith was a friend of the Joneses*. Effectively blurred, Yon's images of tortoises set against a Romantic landscape, crabs jockeying for position in a crowded tank, and bags of Cheetos and Freetos on supermarket shelves suggest the narrative illogic resulting from excessive channel-surfing.

By far the show's most attention-getting piece is Samuel Yates' *Self-portrait*, which consists of a thousand cans stacked to the gallery rafters, each one identically emblazoned with "ME" in pink letters. It's a sight to see. Yates has memorably parodied the mine's-bigger-than-yours mentality that drives the cult-of-personality theatrics of artists working on a deliberately gigantic scale (remember Richard Serra's proposal for a monstrous steel thing in the Palace of the Legion of Honor parking lot?).

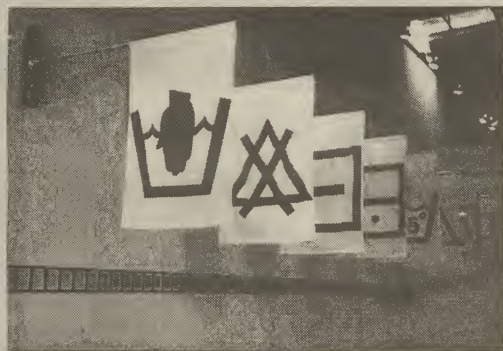
I also liked Stephen Hilyard's fur-and-wood bondage items, and his *Tribute to Albert Camus* needlepoint. Elsewhere, things get shaky. Stacey Lancaster's mun-

dane soap-bubble video, Bruno Fazzolari's ersatz *Recreation Room*, Megan Saperstein's junk-food bubbles, and Permi Gill's Warholian icons and Duchampian brooms beg for a resonance they just don't carry.

Given the everything-but-the-kitchen-sink curatorial approach to this show — either a stroke of

genius on a par with Beck's *Odelay* or the result of lazy selection and flimflam theorizing — it's tempting to praise "whatever..." as a seductive Pandora's box, or damn it for giving viewers both too much and not enough. The whole shebang is so smugly ironic, so it's-so-bad-it's good that the entire gallery should be flanked with giant quotation marks. There is no reason a contemporary exhibition of casual work by some smart artists shouldn't be funny, but the set-ups in "whatever..." are rarely followed by knock-em-dead punchlines. The show is intermittently clever and offers a few mild thrills, but with the *Star Wars* trilogy in rerelease and U2's "Discotheque" on the radio, there's stiff culture-vulture competition these days for hyperspeed pop spectacle. Ultimately, "whatever..." left me — big surprise — apathetic. Oh well. Whatever. ▽

"whatever..." is on view at Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama Street, San Francisco through March 15. Call (415) 863-2141.



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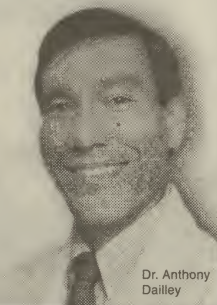
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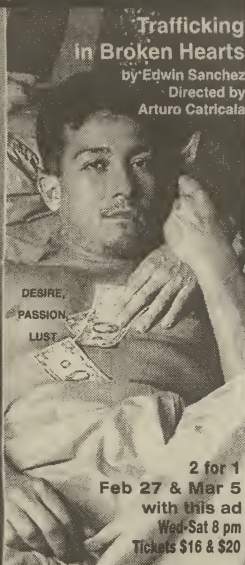
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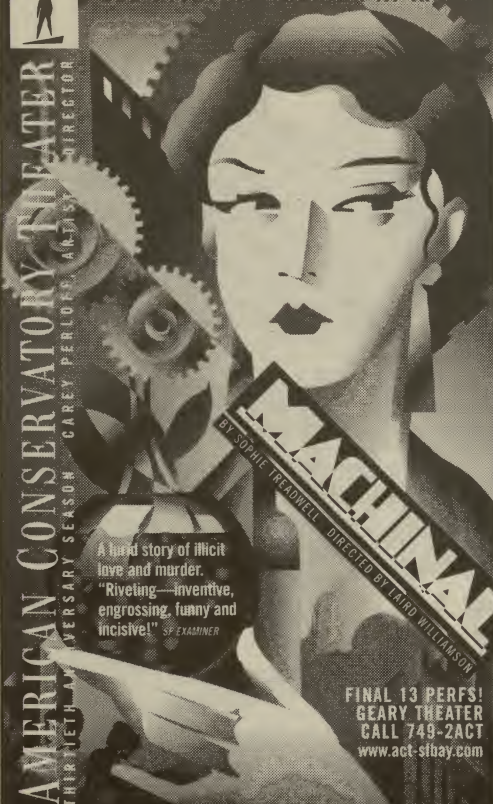
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## Lost Highway

◀ Arts cover

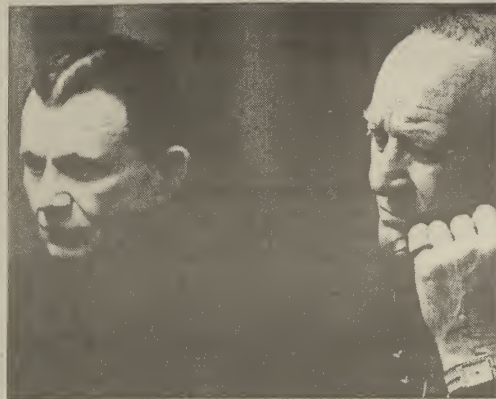
highway of the title.

But Lynch inverts the conventions of film noir with one of the most ruptured film narratives in recent memory. Linearity and logic fly out the window as houses blow up and are suddenly reconstituted; major crimes appear as one-second flashbacks; and characters appear, vanish, and reappear in a wild array of guises. Fred Madison perfectly summarizes the skewed story when he tells two policemen, "I like to remember things my own way...not necessarily the way they happened." He might have added, "or even if they happened."

Where classic noir slowly wears down the "hero's" identity, *Lost Highway* accomplishes the same effect in an instant, actually transforming one character, Fred, into another, Pete. Most noirs usually suggest rather than embody the uncontainable "id" impulses that push trapped characters to their doom, and these impulses are often linked to financial



Director David Lynch



Robert Blake, left, and Robert Loggia.

or erotic suppression. Lynch visualizes the rampaging id as an ultra-creepy demon, who appears at key moments of a character's weakness to do his evil. (It helps that Robert Blake looks like a cross between an insane mime and Udo Kier.)

Lynch's background in fine arts is evident in the film's many painterly compositions, so even when the narrative drifts, the eye is held by the gorgeously organized frames. In many of the scenes, the characters are as evanescent as the plot; the often indistinct backgrounds make them appear to be floating. And you won't find an "LA" movie that looks less like LA, or for that matter, like Earth.

The actors in a Lynch film always have to walk a fine line as puppets of the director's malevolent vision. It's a leap to believe TV's Beretta, Robert Blake, as an otherworldly creature in whiteface, or average guy Bill Pullman as a tortured psychotic. But Lynch's visuals are so strong they contextualize these performances and dazzle us into suspending disbelief. Most of the acting is stylized and purposely unreal, with Robert Loggia's fleshed-out crime kingpin the lone exception. Minor, carp: Patricia Arquette's recurring

nude scenes make us long for equal time with wistful pretty boy Balthazar Getty.

Some of the film reads like a portentous parody of noir, particularly in the actors' agonizingly slow line readings. These are annoying at first, but eventually benefit the film greatly by forcing the viewer to confront what's happening onscreen in a way that wouldn't be possible with normally-paced dialogue. This is part of Lynch's standard game of letting us into his private fantasy world and then doing everything possible to confound and unsettle us.

The question remains whether Lynch's game is rewarding, whether it has any meaning outside Lynch's head. In films like *Wild at Heart*, the directorial excesses were so extreme and the tone so wavering that audiences and critics alike rebelled. Noir is a much more reliable source for Lynch to draw on than *The Wizard of Oz*, and *Lost Highway* crackles with fresh energy, even when it seems to be going nowhere. ▼

*Lost Highway* opens Friday, February 28 at the Embarcadero Cinemas and elsewhere.

## Mark Morris comes to Berkeley

by Stephanie von Buchau

Everybody is so thrilled about superstar cellist Yo-Yo Ma appearing with the Mark Morris Dance Group next week at UC Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall they've forgotten that *Falling Down Stairs*, the Bach solo cello work choreographed by Morris, is not the only premiere on the program.

In addition to *Falling Down Stairs*, Berkeley will also see the Bay Area premiere of *The Office*, in which dancers disappear from stage one by one, speeded in their exits by an efficient woman with a clipboard. Does this dance symbolize death by AIDS, political murders in Bosnia, or corporate downsizing? "Actually, I needed a way to get the dancers off the stage," Morris told me. "If you choose to interpret the clipboard lady a certain way, well..."

The other premiere is *Rhymes with Silver*, a Cal Performances co-commission for Morris set to a new score for violin, viola, cello, piano and percussion by Lou Harrison. "Lou may not always have been fashionable, but he was always fabulous!" Morris said of the octogenarian composer from Aptos. "Years ago, in 1985-86, I found a recording of Lou's *Four Strict Songs* and thought what a beautiful piece.



Yo-Yo Ma, left, and Mark Morris.

When the Seattle Men's Chorus asked me to make a dance for them to accompany with singing, I thought what could be better than this? Someone in the chorus who knew Lou asked if he'd object to his work being sung by 120 men instead of just eight baritones and, of course, he said, "Why not?" He came to Seattle for the premiere and even brought the water bowls [called for] in the score. We got to know each other, and I've done a bunch of his music since."

Morris' other dances set to Harrison's scores include *Strict Songs*, *Grand Duo*, *Pacific*—now in the repertory of the San Francisco Ballet—*World Power*, and a waltz for TV's *Sesame Street*. ▼

The Mark Morris Dance Group performs March 6-8, 13-15 at Zellerbach Hall, on the UC Berkeley Campus. For tickets and information, call 1-(510)-762-BASS.



# Touch of evil

## Alain Delon in Melville's 'Le Samourai'

by Gary Morris

The cinematic anti-hero is often thought of as an American phenomenon, a character type stretching all the way back to feisty Jimmy Cagney in the 1930s, continuing through '40s film noir with moody actors like Robert Mitchum and Humphrey Bogart, and into the 1950s and '60s with rebel-hunks Brando, Dean, and Newman. But surliness and violence know no national borders, and the French have made their own major contributions to this type in the persons of cinematic bastards like Jean-Paul Belmondo and Alain Delon.

With a director like Jean-Pierre Melville, who worshipped everything American, it is possible, even rewarding, to trace a character like Delon's Jeff Costello in *Le Samourai* (1967) back to these earlier rats. In fact, the character's name provides a clue to the film's ethos — Jeff is the spiritual son of an earlier, American Jeff, namely, Mitchum's doomed romantic Jeff Bailey, the protagonist of one of the greatest noir films ever made, *Out of the Past* (1947). These two Jeffs are bound by something that 20 years and a few thousand miles can't break: a piercing sense of loneliness and alienation that dominates and finally consumes them.

Delon's Jeff is a bloodless killing machine, a hit man who dispatches his targets with ruthless efficiency, but who is also strangely childlike in his desire to "do the job" without fanfare. In the opening scene of *Le Samourai*, we see him stretched out alone on his bed, in an apartment so dreary it makes this color film look black and white. His first act is the methodical murder of a stranger, a nightclub owner. But this time he's seen, by a beautiful, cryptic black pianist (Cathy Rosier). According to Jeff's "samourai" warrior code, he should kill her, but he doesn't — the first sign of weakness we see in this otherwise hard character. She returns the favor by refusing to identify him in a police line-up. From here, the film becomes an elaborate cat-and-mouse game, with the police convinced he's guilty and Jeff moving ever closer to oblivion as he becomes a double target — turned on by the faceless men who hire him.

Melville called *Le Samourai* "an analysis of a schizophrenic by a paranoiac, because all creators are paranoiac." But the director's "paranoia" may be easier to accept than the character's "schizophrenia" because atmospherically the film is very much a paranoid nightmare and Jeff, in some ways, an "innocent" victim. Like the film, which has whole sequences without dialogue, Jeff is terse, almost mute. His emotional life is suggested rather than explored, as if it were impossible to penetrate beyond the surface. Still, Melville humanizes this character through his relationship with his mistress (Nathalie Delon), who remains loyal even when she's threatened, and through his increasingly complex relationship with the police and two unknown employers, both of whom are after him. Jeff's obsession with honor — made manifest by the reiteration of the mantra "I never lose. Not ever." — becomes pitifully ironic when he is wounded by another hired gun and chased through the streets by

what looks like half the Paris police force. The film reaches heights of paranoia worthy of Fritz Lang during this chase scene, with the police coolly following Jeff's desperate movements through the streets and subways of the city on an electric map.

*Le Samourai* is a superior early

acter in the John Woo films *Hard-Boiled* and *The Killer*. Woo has called Melville his favorite director, but much as we love Chow, he can't eclipse the subtle power Delon brings to this role. In one scene, Melville's camera captures Delon behind a rainsoaked car window, staring straight ahead, a

### Atmospherically the film feels like a paranoid's nightmare.

example of the neo-noir, expertly manipulating the elements that go with the genre — location shooting; drab, claustrophobic environments; a condensed time frame, noted by day and time printed on the screen; and an emotionally dead hero caught in the last moments of his life.

In the cyclical nature of such things, Delon's Jeff inspired yet another Jeff, Chow Yun Fat's char-

cigarette dangling out of his mouth. It's an unforgettable image of stoicism and bravery in the midst of chaos. ▼

Jean-Pierre Melville's *Le Samourai* will be shown for the first time in the U.S. in the original uncut 35mm version February 28 through March 6 at the Castro Theatre.

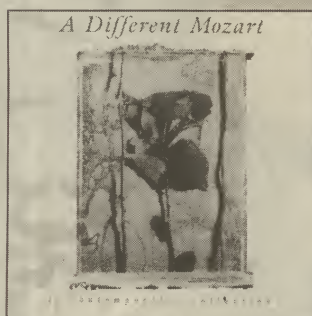


Delon's Jeff is a bloodless killing machine reminiscent of another Jeff, namely Robert Mitchum's in the 1947 noir *Out of the Past*, a film much admired by Jean-Pierre Melville.

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# Dirty little show queen

## Tom Orr's 'Dirty Little Showtunes'

by Chad Jones

In her new act, lesbian comic Lea DeLaria bemoans the music gay men listen to as nothing more than endlessly thump-thumping dance music. "Whatever happened to showtunes?" she asks. It's a good question. Showtunes are, in actuality, the real alternative music. Grunge bands from Seattle and techno-funk jungle music can't be considered alternative because that's what most people are listening to. Clerks in Tower Records know in which bins to find that stuff. Just try asking one of these multi-pierced, multi-tattooed employees to locate the new London cast recording of *A Little Night Music* and you'll know what it means to be seen as a freak of nature.

Tom Orr knows too well the shame of being a show queen. He has spent the better part of his 26



Tom Orr

years awash in the great Broadway cast albums, and is now fashioning his love of showtunes into a career. Raised in Southern California, Orr, now a resident of

Seattle, where he is a drama critic for the *Seattle Times*, is giving the Pacific Northwest a rest in order to bring his musical revue, *Dirty Little Showtunes*, to San Francisco. When the musical opens at the Cable Car Theatre tonight, audiences will be treated to familiar tunes with brand new lyrics by Orr delivered by a cast that includes the composer, three drag queens and three leather daddies.

A sample from an altered *Sound of Music* favorite goes something like this: "Lying spread-eagled in black leather slings, these are a few of my favorite things." And *South Pacific*'s "There Is Nothing Like a Dame" is now a tribute to leather men: "We don't have boas made of feathers cause we're not that kind of fag and we don't admit that leather's just another kind of drag." It's not exactly *Oklahoma!*, but any showtunes are better than none at all.



Trauma Flintstone, Eric Brizee, Randy Wendelin, Tom Orr (front), David Bicha and Birdie Bob Watt.

"I don't want people to think I'm abusing these songs," Orr says while sipping coffee and noshing a bagel in sunny Union Square. "I've been listening to these songs since I was six years old. They are embedded deeply in my soul."

Orr first started writing lyrics while in Catholic high school. At his graduation, he fashioned new

lyrics to *The Sound of Music*'s "So Long, Farewell" that conveyed how little his education had meant to him. Though only a showtune, it nearly got him expelled. "It was then that I learned the power of satire," Orr says.

After graduating from Loyola-Marymount University in 1992, Orr moved to Seattle, where he became the roommate of syndicated sex advice columnist Dan Savage (of "Hey, faggot" fame), who also founded a theater troupe called Greek Active. It was for this group that Orr played Algernon in an all-leather, all-male version of Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*. "It was so much fun just doing out, queer theater that was irreverent and unapologetic," Orr recalls.

Orr also began performing at "Mr. Seattle Leather Daddy" contests, where he premiered many of the altered showtunes that make up his latest tour de force.

Orr hopes to eventually craft a complete original Broadway musical himself. He's closer to achieving that goal than he might think. Two years ago, he collaborated with a friend on *Who Killed Stephen Sondheim?*, a musical mystery for which Orr wrote new lyrics to Sondheim songs. The project, a one-night-only performance done with Sondheim's blessing, has been successfully mounted twice as a charity benefit. Just prior to departing Seattle for San Francisco, Orr won an award for Best Musical of 1996 for *Pimpin'*, a one-act musical about prostitution and human sacrifice set amidst auditions for a tour of *Godspell* bound for Islamic Fundamentalist Iran.

Orr's new show is a traditional revue (if gay men in dresses and leather is traditional) shaped with a Broadway storyteller's hand. *Dirty Little Showtunes* features the gay utopia number, the STD song, the bitter break-up tune, the ode to phone sex, the gang fight between the drag queens and leather men and, of course, the AIDS number.

"I think it's funny we're doing a queer showtune show because as I've become proud of my identity and sexuality, I've also become proud of my affection for showtunes," Orr says. "When I was little I hid my albums and Annie eight-tracks from my friends. I was so embarrassed by it. Now, with most of my best friends, that's the common bond. We can sit for hours dishing on Sondheim or whoever, and it makes us happy. We're out, proud show queens." ▼

*Dirty Little Showtunes* opens Feb. 27 at the Cable Car Theatre. Call 956-8497 for information.

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## THEATRE

# Strutting and fretting

Berkeley Rep 'Macbeth' is mixed bag

by Chad Jones

One thing is guaranteed in a Tony Taccone-directed show — a hearty dose of art. In his productions for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, or his shows for the Berkeley Repertory Theatre (of which he is associate artistic director), there are always solid artistic concepts filled with arresting visual images fleshed out by intelligent, thoughtful interpretations of texts. Taccone's current Berkeley Rep production of *Macbeth* offers all of the above, but not in the right proportion. As Shakespeare productions go, this one is tight, fast, and diverting, but as drama it is strangely uninvolved and surprisingly weak in key areas.

The best things about this *Macbeth* are the production design and the ensemble cast. Christopher Barreca has crafted a slice of Scotland from a great, hulking mass of rusty metal, a patch of dark soil, a lofty parapet, and a castle interior that is both striking in its ancient beauty and dour in its crumbling decrepitude. Peter Maradudin's almost cinematic lighting enshrouds the castle at Dunsinane in appropriately sinister foreboding, while Gabriel Berry's costumes — ranging from gaudily ornate and contemporary to more traditional Shakespearean battle gear — keep the time frame effectively indistinct.

In tandem with these fine production elements, the dozen actors in the ensemble forge a distinct and potent conception of the play. In multiple roles, each of the supporting players evinces a firm grasp on the meaty, murderous drama and seems more than up to director Taccone's breakneck telling of the tale. Remi Sandri is a stalwart Banquo, strong enough to make a vivid impression before Macbeth has him murdered for being in the way. Joe Vincent's King Duncan is the ultimate picture of distinguished royalty as he bestows the o'erleapingly ambitious Macbeth with the vaunted title that will be the undoing of them both.

As the witches, Peter Macon, Yumi Ann Sumida, Lisa Wolpe, and Eric Newton are given the show's most intriguing design and performance opportunities. Bald and wraith-like in their nearly nude gray pallor, the witches seethe and crawl all over the set, like ghosts searching for something to do. Taccone has heavily edited the original text and in the process cut almost all the witches' dialogue. But given their strong, eerie presence in the production, the lack of dialogue hardly matters.

So with a powerful design and ensemble, how can this *Macbeth* be so empty? In the central roles of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, Carl Lumbly and L. Scott Caldwell simply do not overcome their actorly posturing to connect in any meaningful way with their characters. Lumbly, primarily a film and television actor, at least finds himself on surer ground in the second act, after Macbeth has committed most of his heinous crimes, finds himself king, and begins suffering for his deeds. But even then, the actor never fully invests himself in the role of the evil, disturbed king.

Caldwell, a Tony Award-winner, is unable to make her Lady



Carl Lumbly is Macbeth in Berkeley Rep production.

Macbeth anything more than a wife who is good at manipulating her husband. Erratic and unfocused from her first speech, Caldwell never finds sure footing. The conspiratorial relationship between Mr. and Mrs. Macbeth drives the play and forms one of the most interesting psychological duets in the history of drama. But not in this *Macbeth*.

The speed and abruptness of the production would probably seem less crass if the central per-

formances were strong enough to complement it. But as it stands, this *Macbeth* gives new meaning to the line, "Out, out brief candle." Yes, these poor players do strut and fret their two-plus hours on the stage, but, a la Shakespeare, it signifies nothing. ▼

*Macbeth* continues at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre through April 4. Call (510) 845-4700 for information.

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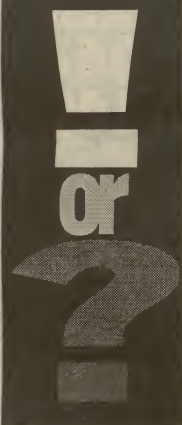
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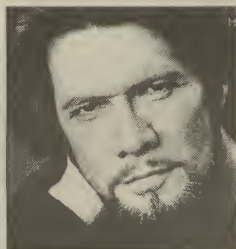
*It wasn't the sound system, but the Civic itself that compromised SFO's '96 season*

by Stephanie von Buchau

**H**urray! It's finally over. Last weekend, the San Francisco Opera ended its 74th season, the one that will forever be known as the *Wanderjahre*. Forced out of the War Memorial by the seismic retrofit, SFO had two choices: either fold its tents for 20 months or perform in other venues. The Orpheum Theater, where the company performed three of the season's nine operas, was small for the singers and crowded for its patrons, but at least it is a real theater: it has an enclosed stage, a proscenium, and, at least for SFO's purposes, did not require amplification.

The Civic Auditorium, on the other hand, is a barn, a huge, noisy, acoustically bizarre space into which the opera company—employing its best creative and technical minds—tried to impose an operatic "environment." While not in any way comparable to the majestic War Memorial, the Civic space was expected to deliver a product that would keep our operatic libidos heated until this September's opening night orgasm.

Did the company succeed? The answer depends on who you talk to. Long-time subscribers who sit in the first two rows of the War Memorial got the same approximate seats at the Civic and were ecstatic. No one seemed to mind that the space required that the orchestra be located above and behind the stage, out of sight of the singers. In fact, being spit on by Sam Ramey during *Tales of Hoffmann* was the biggest operatic thrill one fan has ever had. He told me he didn't want to go back to the War Memorial, "where the orchestra is in the way." Okay, that is one kind of crazed response—a canary fancier to whom opera



Getting intimate with Ramey.

means singers up close and personal, sexy, famous, loud singers with red hot spittle.

But that's not opera; that's a sporting event. Opera should be an emotional experience derived from the chemistry between the composer's music (led by his surrogate, the conductor) and its living interpreters. It is a chemical reaction that experienced opera lovers pray for at every performance, but only get about 15 percent of the time, if they are lucky. In order for this chemical reaction to take place, conductor and singers must face each other in the traditional manner, which is traditional not because it's some time-honored ritual, but because opera cannot be performed if singers and conductor can't hear and see each other. That, rather than the acoustics, was the main flaw of the Civic experiment. In addition to producing unmusical results much of the time, the format also held the artists up to potential ridicule, and to the kind of uncomprehending reviews in which opera personnel (both artistic and technical) were blamed for the faults of the building itself.

San Francisco Opera Production Chief Glenn Plott warned me almost a year ago that the "music first" ideal to which all opera companies aspire might be compromised this season. Drama wouldn't, however, since sightlines are better in the Civic and audiences were close to the stage. Sound was a different matter. After Lotfi Mansouri's creative team had built the operatic "environment" inside the Civic shell, SFO Sound Designer Roger Gans and his crew installed an elaborate sound system designed to be flexible enough to meet the Civic's many "demands." The ideal sound they were seeking—in technical terms it's called "flat frequency response"—is transparent and distortion-free, a sound that neutralizes rather than amplifies problems.

The system employed consisted of expensive, state-of-the-art equipment, much of it generous "donations in kind" from Palo Alto's Euphonix (a digitally controlled analog mixing system), Danish Pro Audio (delicate Bruel & Kjaer microphones), and Berkeley's Meyer Sound Laboratories (speakers). Once the sound system was installed and tested during rehearsals (without an audience), it seemed almost unnecessary. Yet, as John Meyer, founder of Meyer Sound, said wryly, "The sound business is still scientifically in the Stone Age." When the hall was full on opening night, those 4,177 bodies sucked up the sound like sponges. *Prince Igor's* overture seemed like it was being broadcast from a transistor radio. Frantic adjustments were made at inter-

mission, but the public relations damage was essentially done.

The sound enhancement was altered slightly for each show, depending on the staging and demands of the orchestration, but most critics never got the message. Ideally, they should have been in on early testing, if only to get their bearings before judging singers and orchestral performances in an unfamiliar environment. I don't think any of us musical types are ever going to like "sound enhancement," but there need not be so much ignorance about it. Gans, who displayed the patience of Job with my constant questions (and with unfair personal attacks in the press), finally declared: "Ninety percent of the sound anomalies in the Civic are a result of the building's acoustical properties—the tin roof, the huge air space, the noisy risers, railings and seats—rather than the installed sound system."

How else to explain why the sound was so radically different between identical seats on the left and right sides of the house? Why did a trumpet suddenly lurch out of the orchestral texture? (Suspicious minds suspected some evil genius at the sound console twiddling knobs to drive us all crazy.) Why did the sound gradually warm up at each performance of *Salome*, yet not for the other operas? And why during his benefit concert could you hear Plácido Domingo no matter where he was standing, but not singers standing near him?

I spent the entire season investigating these fascinating questions. Part of my education was an ear-opening visit to Meyer Sound in Berkeley. Finally, I was given a demonstration of the "system" in the Civic during an *Aida* rehearsal. In the middle of the Temple Scene, with orchestra, chorus, and soloists in full cry, Gans had the sound turned off so I could tell the difference. But, of course, I couldn't. The difference was so slight that it was more a matter of tonal color than of loudness. As Gans and Meyer explained it, what they tried to do was equalize the space and produce, without distortion, the most transparent sound enhancement possible. "Amplification is a dirty word," Gans said. "This system doesn't correct, it compensates." And it surely sounds better than the ear-splitting, obnoxiously amplified sound systems employed in the Golden Gate, Orpheum, or Curran Theatres for musicals.

One might say of the Civic experiment that the operation was a success but the patient died. No matter what they do to it, Civic Auditorium is not ideal for opera. Yet the alternative would have meant no opera, and a season that produced—for me at least—a genuine thrill in every performance was justification enough for camping out on Grove Street. Sergei Leiferkus' Prince Igor, Karita Mattila's Elsa, Olga Borodina's Carmen, Ruxandra Donose's Nicklausse, Karen Huffstodt's *Salome*, even Nicolle Folland's unseen priestess in *Aida*—her lovely, disembodied voice floating through that immense air space was the best musical-acoustical-electronic effect of the season—made it worth suffering the aggravation of the Civic Auditorium's acoustical anomalies. But now, back to the War Memorial. Please. ▼

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Sexy 'Shogun' outdoes clunky 'Criss-Cross'

by Stephanie von Buchau

When Helgi Tomasson was the prince of Balanchine's New York City Ballet, the diminutive dancer was celebrated for his musicality. How surprising then that about half the work Tomasson has choreographed for the San Francisco Ballet is so unmusical. Even worse, the music choices themselves sometimes appear as awkward and clunky as the choreography.

That is certainly the case with Tomasson's new *Criss-Cross*, unveiled at Yerba Buena Gardens last Wednesday as part of the San Francisco Ballet's Program Two. The intellectual conceit — tension between period and modern

styles — is crisply executed, but the actual choreography (at least with the opening night cast) was a drab disappointment.

Tomasson chose two scores for the 33-minute work. One is a series of Scarlatti keyboard sonata movements arranged for orchestra by a contemporary. This sweetly insipid music brought forth insipid choreography from the corps. The central *pas de deux* is modern in movement but 18th century in its cool, ironic love play. What didn't work visually — at least not with Tina LeBlanc and the unruly new principal, Roman Rykin — were the climactic lifts; either the dancers were off or Tomasson meant them to look off. Whichever, he never got the coordination right.

In the second part of *Criss-Cross*, the 18th century yields to a Handel Concerto Grosso orchestrated by Schoenberg, the sort of neo-classical 20th century piece where you are never sure if the music is atonal or the orchestra is out of tune. The *pas de deux* in this piece is more sensual and direct, with Yuri Possokhov partnering Joanna Berman. Yet the period-modern dichotomy is made almost irrelevant by the costumes, a mish-mash of styles and dreary colors that do nothing for the men and make the women — in trousers or lace-edged pettipants — look either unattractive or immodest.

The most exciting work on the program was *Shogun*, the duet by Ivonice Satie introduced at the SFB Gala earlier in the month. It melds South American music to stylized samurai gestures for two bare-chested hunks. With David Palmer and a pumped-up Jose Martin, there was enough testosterone on stage to fuel a street gang. The piece passes from macho titillation to gender-bending deliriousness when the two guys whip golden fans from their waistbands and fall over each other in orgasmic bliss.

*Shogun* alternates on Program Two with Tomasson's *Pandora Box*, the other hit from the Gala, set to one movement of Aaron Jay Kernis' marvelous English Horn Concerto. Dressed in black, Yuan Yuan Tan and Muriel Maffre, all



Joanna Berman and Yuri Possokhov in *Criss-Cross*.

## Women working

Working Women Festival III

by Deborah Peifer

In the far distant past when I was an undergraduate theatre major, two facts were regularly drummed home: 1) We do theatre because telling and hearing stories make us human; 2) Women were not involved in theatre until the Restoration (1660), and then only peripherally until Clare Boothe Luce wrote *The Women* in 1937. The two problems with these "facts" are, of course, the implication that women weren't human until the 17th century, and that the second is wrong. Whenever we look for women in theatre history, we find them. The apparent absence of women had more to do with the willful blindness of the (male) researchers than a female lack of the human need to tell stories. The assumption that theatre — especially playwriting, design and tech — is really a man's game continues to the present day, with male critics and male scholars doing their best

page 46 ►



Lorna Aquino Chui

Photo by Chrystine R. Ellis

wicked extensions and attitude, compete and twine around each other like Jennifer Tilly and Gina Gershon in *Bound*. They may be the ugly spirits released from Pandora's box or they may be a pair of cool black widows discussing ex-mates and new victims. Whatever, *Pandora Box* is not only amazing to watch, but proves that when he wants to, Tomasson can be as evil and sexy as the next hip

dance maker. ▼

San Francisco Ballet's Program II, *Pacific*, *The Lesson*, *Criss-Cross*, and *Pas De Deux* (*Pandora Box* alternating with *Shogun*), continues through March 9 at the Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens. Call 865-2000 for tickets and information.

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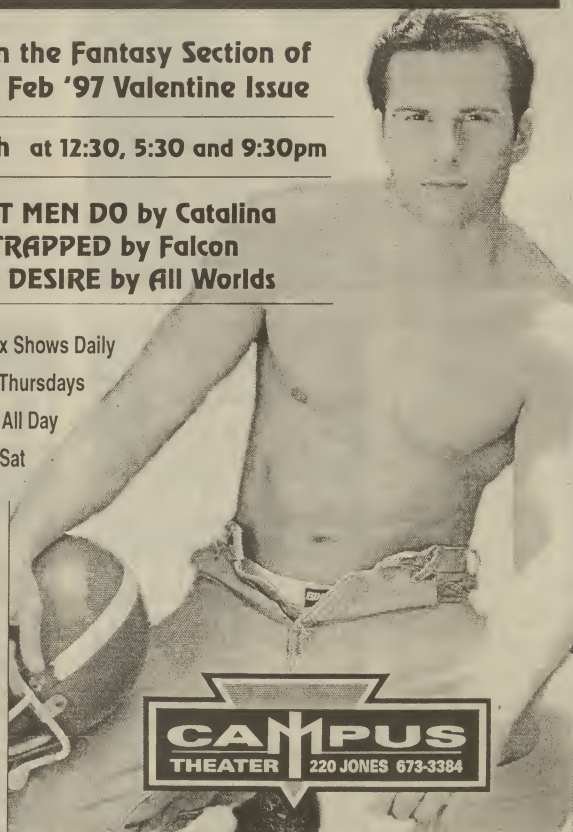
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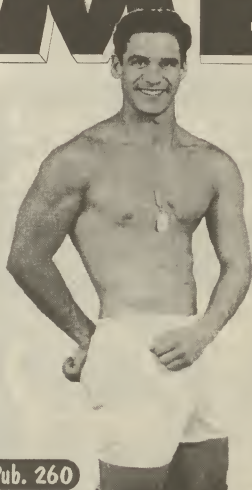
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Author Brian Keith Jackson

# Mississippi yearning

by Nisa Donnelly

*The View from Here* by Brian Keith Jackson; Pocket Books, \$22

With *The View from Here*, Brian Keith Jackson, a 29-year-old, gay African-American writer, makes a stunning literary debut with a cast of characters whose roots are as deep as the landscape they inhabit. Set in rural Mississippi in the 1950s, the story tracks the life and loves of Anna as narrated by her soon-to-be-born daughter. Turning a fetus into a wise and credible narrator is no small literary feat, but the technique works because Jackson creates a world for his characters that is as wholly contained and untouchable as the fetus itself.

Anna's world, however, is not as simple as it may first appear. She longs for love that cannot be achieved, for friendships now lost, for a daughter to touch a part of herself and her husband long since lost to the ravages of time. Her story is tragic.

Already the mother of five sons, she hopes for a daughter. But once the child is conceived (on the night of a Halloween full moon) she hides the pregnancy from her husband, knowing he

will not welcome a fifth child. Indeed, the worst of her fears is realized when he offers this latest child to his childless sister and her husband.

The protagonist's isolation is as complete and unthreatened as that of her fetus. It is also just as insular. To relieve her loneliness, Anna shares her deepest longings, dreams and hopes with her unborn child, whom she calls "Lil Lisa," and in unsent letters to her girlhood friend, the fast-living Ida Mae, who escaped years earlier to the excitement of northern cities.

As the Mississippi seasons turn, Anna struggles to keep her family together in the face of unrelenting hardship. Her dour husband loses his job and turns to drink. Her eldest son becomes the family breadwinner and threatens his father's place. Her childless sister-in-law hovers like an eager vulture, desperately awaiting the birth of the child she believes will bring joy to her joyless life. For this family there is little happiness and no peace, only tattered dreams stitched together with the thinnest threads of hope. Hope that the child will be a girl, that Anna's husband will relent and let her keep her daughter, that Ida Mae will return and somehow make Anna's life whole.

This tone of quiet desperation

pervades *The View from Here*, yet Anna's hope and will are strong enough that she is far from being merely a victim. Indeed, the author has said he wrote the book as a "thank you to women for their strength," and Anna, though she doesn't acknowledge her strength, is a strong woman and a fully formed character.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for the shadowy and absent Ida Mae, or for sister-in-law Clariece. Ida Mae, by her very absence, is ephemeral. Clariece, whose presence descends in the last few chapters like a malevolent cloud, is unfortunately one-dimensional. She is never allowed to be anything more than a melodramatic villain and this taints the book's closure.

The author's gift for dialogue — he's also a performance artist and playwright — brings these characters to life. It is easy to walk the dusty roads with Anna, to sit at the family table with her children, to watch the full moon rise across the cornfield in back of her small house.

Jackson is a strong writer and a refreshing voice in today's white-dominated book industry, and certainly a welcome addition to the extremely small number of gay African-American writers being published in this country. ▼

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## Working Women

◀ page 45

to erase women from theatre and humanity.

Enter, joyfully, the third annual Working Women Festival, which Connie Noble, one of the festival's five producers, calls "a celebration of women's work in theatre." Noble explains that the "focus of the festival is on giving women opportunity, but the goal is a well-rounded, top quality theatre experience for the audience." The breadth of performances, discussions and workshops is remarkable, ranging from the festival's first commissioned work, "The Middle Passage Project," an expressionistic exploration of slavery and its effects on contemporary African-Americans, to a class on basic stilt-walking, taught by Lorna Aquino Chui. A special panel discussion, "Theatre and the Female Perspective," hosted by Libby Appel, includes high tea.

Submissions for this year's celebration of working women "came from beyond the region," Noble relates. The festival has a

long tradition of including women of diverse cultural and economic backgrounds, "but this year a special effort was made to include workshops and performances that would appeal to younger women as well as to women at middle-age and beyond." "Family Treasures," for instance, offers pieces written by young San Franciscans, whereas Jane Hill's solo performance, "Getting It: Four Characters in Mid-Life and Beyond," looks at the life experiences of an older woman.

Although the performances and workshops are the heart of the festival, Noble explains that "we are establishing mentorship programs to provide an ongoing opportunity for young women to work with, and learn from, professional designers."

The Opening Night Gala on March 8 is a benefit for the festival and includes a reception and the presentation of the "Working Woman of the Year Award." Following the ceremony, Signal Theatre Company will perform Neena Beber's Emmy-nominated *Tomorrowland*, which the author

describes as "part satire and part spiritual journey, [an exploration] of Disneyland, and unmoored American ambition." Although many of the festival performances are presented in repertory to enable more people to see more of the work, *Tomorrowland* is a one-time event.

"We've very consciously promoted a festival atmosphere," Noble offers. "Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration."

Co-producer Amy Mueller, last year's recipient of the Working Woman Award, is particularly impressed that "the festival has taken a huge leap forward artistically." Given the variety of offerings, it seems highly unlikely that there won't be something for everyone, male and female, young and old, at this year's festivities. ▼

The Working Women Theatre Festival takes place March 8 through March 29 at the 450 Geary Studio Theatre. Tickets for the March 8 Opening Gala are \$20 in advance, and \$25 at the door. Call 673-1172 for more information.

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## BOOKS

# Irreverent herstory

by Deborah Peifer

*The American Woman's Almanac: An Inspiring and Irreverent Women's History*, by Louise Bernikow; Berkley, \$16.95

With the ascension of Henry VII, the first of the Tudor line, to the English throne, the concept of kingship changed. No longer first among equals, the person of the monarch became different from his subjects. One consequence of that change in attitude was that servants who were proximate to the royal body gained power and treasure. This was true of the servants of Henry VII, his son Henry VIII, and his son Edward VI. The same was not the case for either of the Tudor queens, Mary or Elizabeth, or at least that is what male historians insist, not because they investigated the

women pilots? "Thirteen passed the preliminary tests. It was whispered that women might be better astronauts, since they lasted three times longer than the male pilots in the isolation tanks. It never happened. Women pilots, who were not allowed to fly commercial jets or military aircraft, were required to wear high heels and hose, to look like ladies, while NASA tested them. In September 1961, the final phase of testing was canceled." After all, how could women possibly have the right stuff?

Bernikow looks carefully at the female body, and the special efforts of the male medical establishment to define female as pathological, as diseased, as having only one function, breeder. She quotes a 19th-century male doctor: "It is as if the Almighty, in creating the female sex, had taken the uterus and built up a woman around it." Menstruation gets a good look, too. "In

quotes as: "Nearly all the opportunities, educational and political, that woman has acquired have been gained by a march of conquest with a skirmish at every post. We must make ourselves so aggressive a political factor that our natural protectors can no longer deny us a voice." (Helen Keller, 1915); "Woman's strongest vindication for speaking [is] that the world needs to hear her voice." (Anna Julia Cooper, black writer and activist, 1982); "Once the Right realizes there's a lesbian baby boom, it will try to pass legislation requiring people to have a marriage license to buy a turkey baster." (Donna Red Wing, GLAAD, 1994); and "Be his. Be home. Be hard to forget. But be sure. Sure as Kotex napkins." (1970 ad).

Fascinating facts serve to remind us both of how far we have come, and how far we have to go. Bernikow explains that 19th-

**In her delightfully entertaining and instructive text, 'The American Women's Almanac,' Louise Bernikow reminds that whenever we look for them, women are all over the place, in the arts, in science, in medicine, in politics.**

question, of course, but because they just *somehow knew*. When historian Joan Goldsmith researched the ladies-in-waiting to Elizabeth, however, she found that they had been granted great wealth and property in their own names. Goldsmith also found requests for assistance addressed to these very ladies, from men of considerable standing. All it took to discover these facts was a willingness to look at all the evidence.

Is there a point to this history lesson? You bet. That women are still regularly written out of history is a feminist truism. In her delightfully entertaining and instructive text, *The American Women's Almanac*, Louise Bernikow reminds that whenever we look for them, women are all over the place, in the arts, in science, in medicine, in politics.

Did you know, for example, that the Mercury astronaut program in the 1960s included 26

1905, [sanitary] napkins were made of linen and cheesecloth and attached to suspenders that went over the shoulders and joined together in both front and back."

The notion of women as active beings was routinely seen as threatening. The Girl Scouts of America, founded by Juliette Low in 1912, emphasized "calisthenics, hiking and basketball. Physical education specialist Luther Gulick objected and organized the Camp Fire Girls in opposition. Dressed like what a white man thought of as demure Indian maidens, their major activity was singing songs around a suitably domestic campfire."

*The Almanac* is more than facts, however, although there are plenty of them. The heart of this book is the words of the women themselves. This is the kind of book that you will use to annoy your friends when you call them with such fabulous

century girls' schools had a lot of prejudice to fight, as revealed in this comment, made by 19th-century priest Reverend John Todd: "As for training young ladies through a long intellectual course, as we do young men, it can never be done. They will die in the process." Bernikow reveals that even food was regulated by those willing to teach women. "Certain foods, it was believed, especially highly flavored dishes and meats, aroused the sexual appetites. Therefore, girls' diets were regulated to protect them from unhealthy desires. Since protein deprivation was considered a cure for female masturbation, female boarding schools were likely vegetarian."

Bernikow sets up each section of the almanac with a useful essay on the topic, which serves to situate the quotes and stories to follow. There is also a bibliography. The result is a readable reference work. What a find! ▼



United Mine Workers, Varsant, Virginia, 1976.

Photo from The American Women's Almanac.

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## LEATHER SCENE



International Mr. Bear '97 winners (l to r): Bear Cub Dwayne Mosco, Intl. Mr. Bear Jim Parton, Grizzly Bear Michael Freer and Daddy Bear Lance Lirette at the Gift Center Pavilion Feb. 23.

## Of scepters and sashes

by Mister Marcus

The city enjoyed an influx of tourists from all over the world last weekend as bears, royalty and leather/SM devotees converged on Mecca for the International Bear Rendezvous, the coronation of San Francisco's new emperor and empress, The 15 Association's 17th anniversary, and the selection of a new Leather Dyke Daddy and Leather Dyke Mommy.

By Thursday night, Feb. 20, royalty and bear types were cavorting around the campus. The royals had their in-town show, and the Lone Star, headquarters for IBR for the most part, put on a special beer bust and spread for early bear arrivals. Japanese and Korean tourists at the Ramada on Market were treated to the sight of the hairy ones *en masse* in the lobby. Up at the Holiday Inn on Van Ness/Pine, other tourists were "sparkled" to death by all the crowns, scepters, rhinestones and elegant gowns belonging to our blue bloods. For the locals, it

meant long lines to get into their favorite watering holes, but everyone reported meeting new and interesting people. Bar and shop owners were busy ringing up sales with obvious glee.

On Friday night, Feb. 21, the bears participated in a pub crawl to various *boites* around town, and most of the former emperors were honored at a jam-packed reception at The Giraffe on Polk Street. Empress II Bella decorated the bar with swaths of metallic silver out front and a dazzling light show inside. Hydrie Downard and former Emperor Brian Benamati called all the dowagers onstage to receive an honorarium in the form of a marble/silver plaque. My fave makeup artist, Jimmy Quinn, was there, and we had a great time reminiscing about the court system and him putting *moi* in drag for the first time at the first-ever Closet Ball. It was a gala evening with royal "legends" from out of town like

Nicole the Great ("The Lightning Bolt Empress") of San Diego, the irrepressible "Mame" of Portland and Kathy Apple of Los Angeles.

On Saturday night, Feb. 22, while the bears were enjoying a great banquet at the "Celebrate San Francisco" event at the Ramada, the crowned heads of state and their subjects braved the evening sunlight with their "faces," gowns and crowns to flock to the Gift Center for the final night of the reign of Steve Vallone and Cockatielia. In addition, a few short blocks away, leather dykes were getting ready to compete in the Dyke Mommy and Dyke Daddy competitions at

the Eagle.

Queen Cougar and Don Thompson emceed the dyke leather event, with four candidates for Dyke Daddy and two for Dyke Mommy. Besides the question-and-answer session with the judges, the hopefuls performed fantasies and gave brief speeches. Most of the former Ms. SF Leathers presented their sashes/vests to the Leather Archives in Chicago via Viola Johnson, who is a board member of the organization. Scooter Jenkins was videotaping the event, and outgoing Dyke Daddy Koko and Dyke Mommy Beth Elliott gave memorable farewell speeches.

After Tina and Kevin Roche performed a very cute fantasy with Sharon Kleinman and Doug, the results were announced. The 1997 Dyke Daddy is Thumper, and the Dyke Mommy is Aurelia. The leather community looks forward to another great year with this twosome.

A little over an hour later, all the out-of-town courts had already been presented at the imperial coronation ceremony. I arrived in time to witness Emperor Steve sing a "pantomime" number to Empress Cockatielia. Then Cockatielia reciprocated, and it was near bedlam in the house when they both did their "last walk." The Imperial Family was called onstage, and former Empress Donna Sachet called for the tally. A hush fell as the envelopes were delivered to Steve and Cockatielia, who left the dais to bring in the new monarchs from backstage: Emperor Jacques Michaels and Empress Veronda Lanai. Chaos erupted. Cameras flashed.

Thanks, Steve and Cockatielia. Your reign was magnificent! As



Dyke Mommy '97 Aurelia (left) with Dyke Daddy '97 Thumper at the SF-Eagle Feb. 21.



## LEATHER SCENE

## EVENTURES IN LEATHER

## Thursday, Feb. 27

Mr. April 1998 on the BCC chosen at 2200, with Pat Batt, George Carreras and Wolf Mirasol judging. Win \$100, fame and perhaps fortune - all to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Danny Williams emcees the Dating Game at Daddy's at 2100. Try your luck at winning a date with daddy or boy, plus scads of valuable prizes!

## Saturday, March 1

Tom Powers, Mr. April '97 on the BCC, presents "Midnight Picnic" and wienie bust, 2000-2300, SF-Eagle, \$8, with beer, soda, food, raffles, auction and entertainment. An AEF benefit, of course.

ACLC "MAN-uvers II & Black Out Uniform Party" at the Turf Club in Hayward, 2100-2400. The \$6 beer bust includes flashlight. With club overlay, it's only \$5 - half to AEF and half to Drummer Contest 1997.

Visiting Houston? Don Gill's annual "Night in Black Leather" at the Venture'N at 2200. Shan Carr, Larry Arbo and John Benavides emcee to benefit the Colt 45's charity. A big show!

## Sunday, March 2

GSGRA (rodeo dudes) annual hoe-down, BBQ steaks, rodeo round-up and beer bust at the SF-Eagle, 1500-1900. Non-stop entertainment. Patio will be transformed into a dude ranch, so capacity is limited. Get there early! Check out the horses in front!

## Wednesday, March 5

Leather Discussion Group, 1930, upstairs at the Lone Star Saloon. The topic: "Negotiating a Scene." Free. Leather attire encouraged.

## Thursday, March 6

Mr. May for the 1998 BCC spot, 2200, at the SF-Eagle. Judges are Mr. SF Bear Bill Adams, Kath Dudak and Beth Elliott. Win \$100 and glory!

Mr. Castro Station Leather '97 contest. Bart Bartholomew passes the sash to someone who will compete for the Mr. SF Leather title on April 19. No details furnished at my deadline.

Free HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison, 2030-2230. You really should take advantage of this community service!

## Friday, March 7

Taurus Webster's flashlight party, 2000-0200, for the AEF, with a silent auction of rare/erotic art to midnight. Prizes for most creative "light attire."

## Weekend, March 7-9

Ms. Gulf Coast Leather chosen this weekend in Houston, with contestants from Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Texas. Open to all women regardless of sexual preference. Call (713) 661-9829 for details.

## Tuesday, March 11

Recruitment party for Mr. Edge Leather contestants at the Edge at 2100. Details given out for the contest being held on March 16. You could win \$300 cash and other prizes.

for the election, I can tell you the winners won by a landslide in all categories - clearly a mandate for Jacques and Veronda

The action got off to an early start on Sunday morning. At 0800, buses left three sites for Woodlawn Cemetery for the annual wailing and caterwauling at Joshua Norton's grave. Meanwhile, the bears converged on the patio of the SF-Eagle for yet another brunch and auction, where dykemedienné Lea DeLaria suddenly appeared (with two young lovelies in tow) to hawk items. It was a hilarious scene, and Miss DeLaria proved no slouch dealing with the burly ones. Mr. Lurch and Tom Rodgers took a turn auctioning off items as well. After demolishing a fabulous brunch, the bears then went on to explore the city. The royals were brunching at their host hotel, toasting the new monarchs.

Sunday evening festivities were again at the Gift Center. The ambience was completely changed from the night before. An SRO crowd saw 18 bear specimens compete for the title, with the stalwart Mr. Lurch, now hoarse beyond repair, emceeing.

The contestants, including two from Canada, were presented, and the judges began marking. The show got off to a delicious start when Danny Williams took the stage. Danny gets better and better with each passing year. The bears were literally rolling in the aisles, thanks to his alternately scathing and poignant barbs aimed at the high and the low.

The almost 800 bears in attendance were generous with their applause for everyone onstage all evening. While the judges' scores were being tallied, Pussy Tourette served up her searing sexual renditions that had the crowd howling for more. It's difficult to understand why Pussy has yet to be nominated for a Cable Car Award! She deserves it.

It was almost 2300 when the moment of truth arrived. The contestants lined up one more time: Peter Mofett, Frank Colvin, Dwayne Mosco, David Dulan, Charles Carter, Don Kennedy, A.J. Quadros, Ron Morrill, Lance Lirette, Steve Hansen, Jim Guthrie, John Asplund, Scott Sales, Charlie Meyers, Michael Pockett, Michael Freer, Bill Adams



The new Emperor and Empress de San Francisco, Jacques Michaels (left) and Veronda Lanai, received their scepters Feb. 22 at the Gift Center Pavilion.

and Jim Parton.

Clark Rufkin, the judge coordinator, delivered the results to Lurch. There were four winners: International Mr. Bear Cub Dwayne Mosco, International Grizzly Bear Michael Freer, International Daddy Bear Lance Lirette...and International Mr. Bear '97 Jim Parton (also Mr. Southern California Bear). The GCP erupted, and there was a



Mr. Southern California Bear Jim Parton was crowned Intl. Mr. Bear '97 last Saturday night.

frenzied rush to the stage to greet the newest star in the bear community.

Judges Ritch Bergland, David Bress, Bruce Gowan, Bear-Dog Hoffman and Jacques Zonne had done their job well. The crowd seemed pleased with the results, and Bears of San Francisco had another smash success on their hands for the third year in a row. The new International Mr. Bear is a very hot man, and his lover Rick is not bad, either. The BOSF are to be congratulated for yet another glittering production!

The only sad news of the weekend was the report that on Friday night, Feb. 21, International Mr. Leather 1995 Larry Everett suffered second- and third-degree burns in an electrical fire that destroyed his home in Tulsa, Okla. Larry lost everything in the blaze, including all his leathers and memorabilia from his year with the IML title. He is temporarily residing with a relative and is thankful his children were away for the weekend. Expect fundraisers around the country to help Larry get back on his feet.

Flash! The Loading Dock (1525 Mission) celebrates its grand opening this Friday, Feb. 28, 2100-0200. Leather, latex and uniforms are encouraged. Check it out! ▼

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# OUT & ABOUT

## Calendare

by Roberto Friedman



Photographic postcard, circa 1915

## Outa space

"The man on the moon  
Has his eyes on you"

It's been a great year for space news, what with those fossilized microbes that were—and then weren't—and now possibly still are Our Favorite Martians. And it's a good year for outer space in photography, too. Over at the Ansel Adams Center for Photography, where the main attraction, Doug and Mike Starn's *Size of Earth*, is itself pretty cosmic, the side gallery walls are filled with photos of celestial bodies.

*Astronomy, Optics and Outer Space: Photography Beyond the Limits* is a historical survey of how photography has shaped our sense of space. A generous selection of photos captures the universe in the lens and in the imagination. Everything from an image of the moon taken from the Great Telescope of the Lick Observatory (1888) to a photo of an "alleged unidentified aerial object, Oct. 8, 1981, Vancouver Island, Canada."

One of William Wegman's art-dogs genuflects before the moon and planets in "Homage to Space" (1995), while astronaut photographers Neil Armstrong, Edwin Aldrin and Michael Collins take a chromogenic print of Earth, looking backwards from 125,000 miles away. There's also a moon rock, a video of George Meleis' 1902 film, "A Trip to the Moon," and photographs of an eclipse from 1869. Most charming are the photo-postcards, circa 1915, in which couples sit for their portrait on the crescent of a paper moon.

Here's a factoid from the show: "In the mid-1960s on a voyage to the moon, a camera strap broke as an astronaut was taking a spacewalk, and his Hasselblad whirled off into space. It is the only known camera to orbit the earth." ▼

"Astronomy, Optics & Outer Space: Photography Beyond the Limits" remains on view through March 16 at the Ansel Adams Center, 250 4th St. Call 495-7000.



Peter Callender (left) and Joseph Pacheco Ponce in Thick Description's production of *Blade to the Heart*. See Friday.

## Eri

### Blade to the Heart

Oliver Mayer's play deals with latent homosexuality in the boxing world, 1959. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru March 16. \$12-16. New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom. 550-7250.

### Capacity To Enter

Performance artist Canyon Sam's solo work-in-progress, directed by Brian Freeman. \$5. 8:30pm. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 554-0402.

### Derek Lassiter

Sings popular and classic songs with trio of musicians. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

### Digitally Yours

"Comic Queeries into the Future" written and performed by Karen Hirst and Margery Kreitman. Fri. & Sat. thru 3/1 at 8:30pm. \$10. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

### Entertaining Mr. Sloane

Joe Orton's drama: brother and sister's rivalry for a young man's affections. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 3/2. \$14-16. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 621-4423.

### Goldberg Street

Scenes from David Mamet's early work, incl. *All Men Are Whores: an Inquiry*. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 3/22. \$10. Exit Stage Left, 156 Eddy. 673-7156.

### The Gospel at Colonus

Lee Breuer's exuberant gospel musical based on Sophocles' *Oedipus at Colonus*. Tues.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat. & Sun. matinees, thru 3/2. \$22-38. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

### Jimmy Emerson

& Brent Allen in "dragageous" comedy impressions. Tonight at 8pm, various dates thru 3/3, call for times, prices. Plush Room, York Hotel, 940 Sutter. 885-2800.

### More Than a Mouthful

Queer culture TV features Debra Chasnoff and Helen Cohen, co-producers of *It's*

*Elementary: Talking about Gay Issues in School*. 10pm. Cable Channel 53.

### Never Less Alone

Zaccho Dance Theatre presents evening of solo dances by Joanna Haigood. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$12. 1777 Yosemite. 822-6744.

### Old, Jewish and Queer

Naomi Newman in musical theatre piece that pushes boundaries of time and gender. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/23. \$16. A Traveling Jewish Theatre, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

### Places Queers Make

"And Everyone's Welcome," performance by The High Risk Group dance ensemble.

Fri.-Sun. at 8pm. \$6-10. The Lab, 2948 16th St. 864-8855.

### Poor Super Man

Kaliyuga Arts presents Brad Fraser's sexy "play with captions." \$12-15. Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 3/16. SOMAR Theatre, 934 Brannan. 431-8423.

### 7 Dating Mistakes

"That Lesbians Make, and How To Avoid Them," Bay Area Career Women, Marin present Quality Partners. \$8. 6pm. 2030 Bridgeway, Sausalito.

### Something Cloudy, Something Clear

Eastenders Repertory Co. presents Tennessee Williams' last

play. Thurs.-Sat. thru 3/1 at 8pm. \$12-20. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. (510) 841-6510.

### Trafficking in Broken Hearts

Erotic drama about a hustler, a runaway, and a lawyer. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 3/15. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

## Sat

### Brinca

18+ older Latin dance club. DJs Geoff St. John, Jorge Terez, Raymundo. \$10. 10pm-3am. 520 4th St. 2-BRINCA.

### The Edge Festival

Joanne Nerenberg's *Soft Tissue* and Deke Weaver's *Girlfriend*. 3/1, 2, 6-8 at 8pm. \$10. Dancers' Group Studio Theater, 3221 22nd St. 824-5044.

### 18 Mighty Mountain Warriors

Asian-American skit comedy group in late-night shows. \$10. 10:30pm. 3/1, 8, 15. Brava Theater, 2789 24th St. 647-BTCC.

### Gay Geeks

Gay/bi/lesbian intellectuals and visionaries meet. 2pm. Muddy Waters Coffeehouse, 521 Valencia. 679-3680.

### Men's Flag Football

Gay flag football, all levels welcome. 10am. Louis Sutter Park, Wayland and Amherst. 441-7760.

### The Mikado

Lamplighters Music Theater presents Gilbert and Sullivan's light opera. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/23. \$15-24. Lindland Theatre, Rliordan High School, 175 Phelan. 392-4400.

### Radio Mumbo:

"Culture Clash Invades Miami," Latino comedy troupe. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3&7pm thru 3/16. \$17-21. Brava Theater, 2789 24th St. 647-BTCC.

### Ramayana

Lecture/performance of Bai-

nese and South Indian troupes' collaborative project, the epic work for gamelan orchestra. \$6 mus'm admission. 2pm. Trustees' Auditorium, Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8879.

### Same Sex Salsa

& Merengue, one-day workshop led by Ava Apple. \$14 advance, \$17 door. 11am. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 681-8140.

### Sock Hop

50s-60s era recaptured in music and dance, contests for Hula Hoop, costume. Benefits GodFather Service Fund. 8-12pm. Pilsner Inn, 225 Church. 621-7058.

### Tulipmania

Free outdoor display of more than 35,000 tulips; tours daily at 10am. Thurs. 3/9. Pier 39, Beach St. at Embarcadero. 705-5500.

### 20/20 Blake

George Coates Performance Works presents musical based on William Blake's *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*. \$14-34. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm extended thru 3/30. Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 392-4400.

### Virgins and Other Myths

One-man play stars Andrew Nance: All-American sex-driven prostitute. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 3/15. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

### Zoo Story

Edward Albee's play, with LeRoi Jones' *The Dutchman*. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm thru 3/21. \$10. The Sea Theatre, 533 Sutter. 433-7875.

## Sun

### GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Collective seeks video editors, guitar players, music junkies and comedians. Meets Sun. at 3pm. Info: 731-2424.

### Impure Science:

"AIDS Activism and the Politics of Science" author Steven Epstein reads, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

### Jewish Music Festival

Tribute to Jewish Music begins with "The Art of the Cantor"—3,000 years from East to West. Cantor Aaron Bensoussan performs. (Fest thru 3/9). \$14-18. 7:30pm. Internat'l House, 2299 Piedmont, Berkeley. (510) 848-0237.

### Rik Isensee

Psychotherapist speaks on "Growing Up in a Homophobic Culture" to the G40+ Club, free. 2pm. First Unitarian, 1187 Franklin. 552-1997.

## Mon

### Bernard Cooper

*Truth Serum* author interviewed by Charles Wilmoth. \$5. 8pm. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 626-2787.

### John Gutmann:

"Parallels in Focus," exhibit of photographs, paintings and drawings by the artist, incl. the original "Talking Pictures." Mon.-Sat. thru 3/20. Art Dept. Gallery, SFSU, 1600 Holloway. 338-6535.

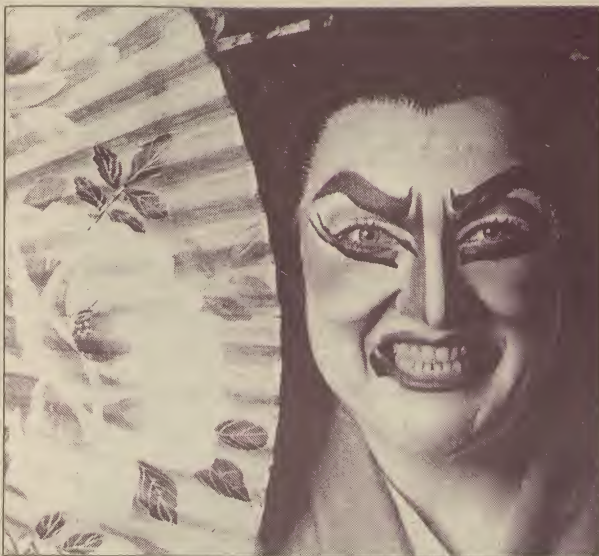
### New Work:

"Drawings Today" exhibit includes artists D-L Alvarez, Jonathan Hammer, Barry McGee. Thru 6/3. SFOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.



"Rue Taitbout (de la rue de Helder)," part of Charles Marville: *Paris Before the Boulevards 1860s-70s* at Robert Koch Gallery. See Tuesday.





Jean Cardin Ziaja as Katisha in Lamplighters Music Theatre's *The Mikado* at Lindland Theatre. See Saturday.

#### Preserving a Jewel:

"Costumes from the San Francisco Ballet" exhibit, free. Mon.-Fri., thru 3/28. Transamerica Pyramid lobby, 600 Montgomery. 983-4088.

#### Robert Arneson

Exhibit of self-portraits: ceramics, bronzes, works on paper. Thru 5/13. SFOOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

#### Russia in Black and White:

"The Photojournalism of Yevgeny Khaldei" exhibit. Sun.-Thurs. thru 7/17. \$5 (free Mondays). Jewish Museum SF, 121 Steuart. 543-8880.

#### Same Sex Swing

West Coast Swing dance classes: beginners, 7pm; pre-intermediate, 8pm; advanced, 9pm. \$44/month, \$13/class. Metronome Block Party, 300 DeHaro. 252-9000.

## Tues

#### Frisch

Bear zodiac drawings, thru 3/11 at Daddy's, 440 Castro; Moby Dick, 18th & Hartford. 435-7966.

#### The Living Brush

Exhibition of "Four Contemporary Chinese Master Calligraphers." Tues.-Sat. thru 8/14. Pacific Heritage Museum, 608 Commercial. 399-1124.



The Ramayana Collaboration between Gamelan Sekar Jaya and The Abhinaya Dance Company at the Asian Art Museum. See Saturday.

#### Paris Before the Boulevards

"1860s-70s" photographs by Charles Marville. Thru 3/22. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

#### The Peale Family:

"Creation of an American Legacy, 1770-1870" exhibition. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/6. \$6. de Young Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

#### QTV

Gay and lesbian programming. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

#### Raindance:

"New Paintings for the Spring" by Lynn Beldner, Kico Govantes, Nelson Morales, more. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/15. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

#### Sappho: No Ordinary Housewife

Exhibit of life and times of Greek poet Sappho. Thru 4/30. Hormel Center, SF Main Library, Civic Center. 661-4107.

#### Smashing Clay

Group show of sculptors in clay, thru 3/12. Buheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

## Wed

#### Cris Williamson

& Tret Fure, celebrating re-

#### lease of Between the Covers.

\$14.50-15.50. 8pm. Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison, Berkeley. (510) 548-1761.

#### Game Night

Card and board games. Wed. at 7:30pm. Muddy's Coffee-house, 1304 Valencia. 679-3680.

#### Landmarks of the American Musical

Exhibition of memorabilia, music and video clips. Wed.-Sat. thru 3/22. SF Performing Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

#### Machinal

ACT's production of Sophie Treadwell's 1920s drama. Tues.-Sun. thru 3/9, call for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$9.50-47.50. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

#### Margaret Atwood

Canadian novelist speaks, benefits Women's Foundation. \$16. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness. 392-4400.

#### Piercing

Get pierced at Advanced Piercer Training Seminar. \$20, includes stainless steel jewelry. Gauntlet offices, 288 7th St. 552-0505 x105.

#### Size of Earth:

"Illuminated Photoworks by Doug and Mike Starn" exhibit, also "The Inaugural Ball: An Open Space Installation by Margaret Crane and Jon Winet," thru 3/16. \$5. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

## Thur

#### Approach

Installation by Glen Seator: reproduction of street in front of bldg. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/22. Capp St. Project, 525 2nd St. 495-7101.

#### Bingo

Coming Home Hospice Bingo benefits AIDS groups. 6:30pm, 100 Diamond. 552-2127.

#### Diosa!: Oh My Goddess

Sherry Glaser performs one-woman comedy work-in-progress. Thru 3/27, call for times. \$20. 8pm. Hoytt Theater, Osher Marin JCC, 200 N. San Pedro, San Rafael. 479-2000.

#### Fence Sitter's Lounge

Anything That Moves presents bisexual dance club. \$3-10. 8pm. Casanova, 527 Valencia. 703-7977.

#### House of Discipline

Bob Ostertag, Mike Patton, Otomo Yoshihide; with House of Splendor - Justin Bond. Call for price. 8pm. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell. 885-0750.

#### Mark Morris Dance Group

With acclaimed cellist Yo-Yo Ma, perform to Bach, Harrison, Dvorák. Thurs. & Fri. at 8pm, Sat. at 2&8pm. \$32-68. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

#### Park Your Car in Harvard Yard

Israel Horowitz's play stars Dean Goodman and Rebecca Dines. Thurs.-Sun. thru 3/9, call for times. \$20. Tonight at 8pm. Jewel Theatre, 655 Geary. (510) 562-4647.

#### Picasso at the Lapin Agile

Steve Martin's comedy featuring the NY cast. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 3/30. Tonight at 8pm, call for times. \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500.

#### Political Animals

Political farce by Kevin Killian. \$5. 7pm. Ansel Adams Center, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

#### Still Lives and Florals

American realists exhibition includes Paul Cadmus, Randall Lake. Thru 3/29. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post. 441-1138.

#### Tales of Urban Horror

An Evening of Mean-Spirited Mini-Plays by Rocky Heck, Lisa Morton. Thurs.-Sat. thru 3/29 at 8pm. \$10. Bindlestiff Studio, 185 6th St. 974-1167.

#### Veronica Klaus

Vocalist, with Heart and Soul quartet, performs R&B cabaret. Thurs. thru March. \$5. 10pm. Cat's Grill and Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

## WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

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Fresh Atlantic Salmon poached in white wine with lemon-tarragon served with chef's rice or mashed potatoes.....10.95

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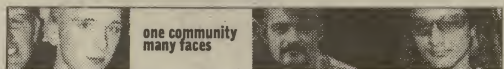
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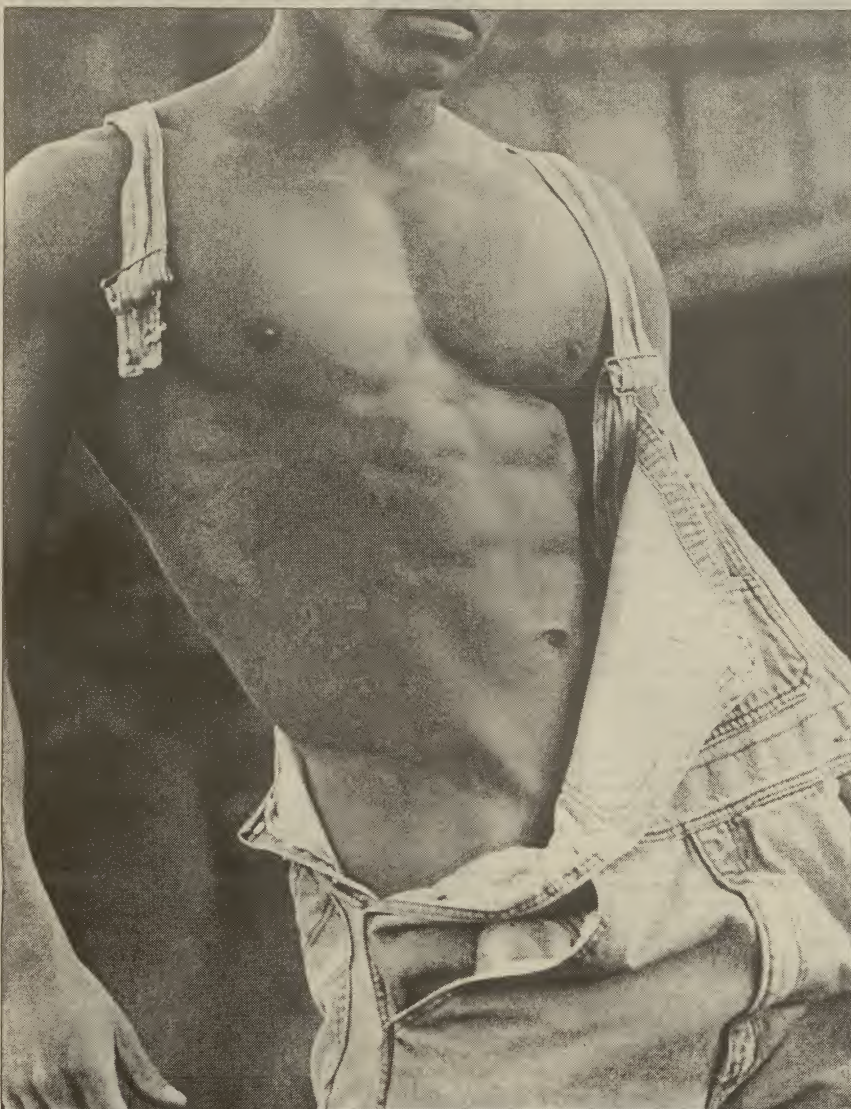
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### PARTING GLANCES

**Cup-Of-Joe Sunday 1/26 Behind U**  
You: wore an orange V-neck sweater w/black tie, brown hair with mustache, goatee, & eyeglasses. Sat across from you wearing black sweater. Eye contact. Like to meet? S 4901.

**Goodmans 1/28 Tues. Afternoon**  
You: hot Asian, Japanese? Stud. Me: R.Q. Positively-in green bug. Said "hi," but to shy to talk. Let's get together. S 4902.

**1/22 The Women... Collingwood**  
Sandy brown hair, 40's, c/n sh., thick build, handsome. Me: 40's, c/n sh., brown hair, white turtleneck, eating popcorn in theater. Later you smiled outside Walgreens. Let's start. S 4903.

**White Range Rover**  
Driving on Haight St. 1/30/97 in the afternoon. Me: blond hair, riding red 10-speed. We made eye contact. Wish that I stopped. Let's do coffee. S 4904.

**We've Flirted (3X) From Afar**  
Last time as we exited separately out of Church St. station. You're my size but younger, buzzcut. I have S&P, bushy mustache, & I really want you. S 4905.

**Espresso Roma On Hopkins 2/12**  
You: shirtless, mustache. Me: Asian, goatee, sunglasses, red jacket. Exchanged glances but were both with a friend so couldn't connect. We all laughed when a bird pooped on your shirt. Let's meet. S 4912.

**GG Seashore Trails Jan. 29**  
We passed around puddle between Legion of Honor & Sutor Baths, exchanged many glances after. We viewed scenery. I (goatee, short hair) couldn't find nerve to say hi. Regretting it. S 4906.

**1/27 or 1/28 Detour-You Noel W/5 STP patches.** Me: c/n in a cab driver kinda way. You: out to smoke I had to leave before I killed everyone! I love you a Stoli. S 4907.

**Devon And Luca**  
At the Latin America Club. Sorry I had to leave so quickly. Call Universal Jim to go out. S 4908.

**Mystery Guy In Van—Sat Feb. 1**  
First saw you standing on corner of 18th and Castro talking with friends. Later you were in van with license plate WIL BEAR. Would like to know who you are. S 4909.

**Attn.: Gorilla-Bob Frm Grt Dane**  
You're 5'6", 140#, in SF for 18 yrs. Love to have wine/dinner but I need your #! OOPS. Please try again—smile. S 4910.

**Safeway Diamond Hts**  
You: tall with red BMW. Me: Asian. Had great time. Let's get together again. S 4911.

**P-Dome Jan. 24 Latin/Grt Smile**  
You: msc, sexy eyes, beaut. smile, jeans/rdwtv sleeveless shirt. You dazzled the guys then left. Sexy body, beaut soul, warm smile—me too. Who Ru? P/s call. S 5002.

**Menlo Park Safeway**  
Sun 2/2 5:30 PM—Said hello as we were leaving. Want to talk. S 4958.

**Central YMCA Feb. 1**  
You are new to area, looking for a gym. I gave you some suggestions. We are both tall, slender, smooth. Let's get together. S 4957.

**18-15-14-9**  
Looks and aging are unimportant!! Mind and heart and spirit is what I fell in love with 11 years ago. 10-9-13. S 5001.

**Sun 2/8 Eve Castro 18th**  
Me: bl leather jacket, Khaki milt cap, gray hr. You: 5'10", drk hair, stach, beard, leather jacket, (glasses?). Looked 1,2,3. Newsstand obstructed. Searched for you. Please call. S 5003.

**Pleasant Hill BART 2 Yrs Ago**  
Used to catch BART home together nearly everyday but never spoke. Saw each other again 2/8, me in Sweet Inspiration, you passing by. You: dark hair, goatee. Me: Asian, glasses, goatee. Let's finally say hi. S 5004.

**Embarcadero YMCA Sun 1/26**  
French guy. We talked on way out of gym. Haven't seen you there since. Let's get-together some time. S 5005.

**Powell St. Muni Wed 2/19**  
You: sexy, black man, going up. Me: dressed in black, carrying Macys bag, going down, you caught my eye (and more), turned to catch your great smile. Let's meet. S 5108.

**Sweet Insp'n/mon. 2/3 9:30PM**  
I was sitting in window w/friend. You: tall/slender, glasses, sat w/back to me. You turned around & said "Hi." We left at the same time. I'm sure we met before? S 5104.

**Caltrans Feb. 5**  
You Caltrans, me Napa stopped in Benicia for a break. Let's do it again slower. S 5063.

**Sweet Inspiration Flirtation 2/7**  
To the gorgeous guy I spied at dessert: you cruised, I cruised—we cruised and cruised, but we barely talked. Call me for more than just a look. Won't disappoint. S 5064.

**Ivan 1/07 Tues. Fairly party**  
You: sandy blond hair, blond goatee, me: B&K tattoos, dreds. You gave me a back rub afterward. Too shy to give you my number. I'm jonesin' for you baby! S 5101.

**Pierced At Mack Valentines AM**  
You had stache, glasses, hairy chest, pierced tits & PA. We played hard. You said your lover would also like to play. Let me be your pig. Silicon tits? Call Mark. S 5102.

**Darrin F. From Seattle**  
Really enjoyed meeting you in December at Pasqua's. Tried to call, phone disconnected. P/s call and leave your #. This time it will be more than last time. S 5103.

**Catacombs 2/8**  
You: black shirt, white pants. Me: in all black. Danced & stared at each other all night. You said good-bye, hope to see you again. Want to see you now! S 5105.

**Ballet Sun PM 2/16 In SF**  
You: yellow jacket. Me: black hair, beige shirt, with woman in white. Caught your wink in lobby, but to shy to run with it. Would love to meet. S 5106.

**You Were—Now You're Gone**  
You were Thai. A real boon to me. We had it going even if you are busy I would still like to be on your call private second. Downtown. Remember. S 5107.

### SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

**HIV Black 170#, 5'10"**  
Looking to build a new life with right guy. No bear types! Must have decent lean body. Forty or under but if you have youthful looking body fifty is OK! S 4913.

**Spicy Wit**  
Sensuous & affectionate vegetable eater, 44, GWM, 6', 194, & hirsute seeks bright, younger lover (28-38) for long walks, romance & endless dialogue. Share my passions. S 4914.

**Bear Seeks Asian/Hispanic Top**  
GWM, 44, 5'10", 195#, hairy, bald, beard, friendly, honest, sincere. Seeks GAM/GHM, smooth, slender, under 35, for LTR. Enjoy dining out, movies, theater, quiet nights, cuddling, kissing. S 4915.

**GWC Seeks Asian Third**  
GWC, attractive, HIV-, 40's, in shape, professional, romantic, sense of humor, passionate, oral & yes, hot—seeking Asian third for passion, friendship, more. S 4916.

**Seeking GWM With Football Phys**  
I am a GWM, 21, in SJ, looking for GWM, 25-34. With a husky football player build for a LTR. Healthy, HIV- only. I'm 6'4", 230 lbs. I'm a bottom. S 4917.

**Looking For GWM Bottom**  
HIV-, healthy, NS/ND, H/WI proportionate, love fun on reg basis, monogamous oriented/poss. LTR. I'm GAM, kind, thoughtful, warm, passionate, rel. oriented. S 4918.

**Masculine & Unaffected**  
Professional GWM, out of bed but, a slim, smooth, submissive bottom is. I'm youthful, early 50's, HIV-, open minded & you are masculine, available & ready. S 4919.

**Sexual Healing**  
GBM top, prof, 40's, ISO GWM bottom, 50 yrs or above who's physically & emotionally available to pursue a LTR. I'm a lite smoker & drinker. You must be medium to stocky built. S 4920.

**Seeking Mature Asian**  
GWM, lean, active, 60, HIV-, seeks older Asian 50-65, for weekend activities, movies, dinners, outdoors, intimacy & quality time. LTR desired. S 4921.

**River Phoenix Incarnation**  
Seeks gentleman to discover life together on many levels...Spiritually, physically, mentally, etc....Call now! S 4922.

**New Year New Romance For GAM**  
Vietnamese/Chinese. 37 yo. Not into bar scene. Seeks attractive GAM for friendship & LTR. I have lots to offer into movies, dining, hiking, nature & quiet eves. S 4923.

**Can You Spice Up My Life**  
Work & working out is my routine. I need more. I'm 38, HIV-, NS/ND, 5'10", 185#. I'm attracted to Body builder/football player types. Age is unimportant, but maturity is. S 4924.

**Looking For A "Classy" Friend!**  
East Bay GWM (San Leandro), attractive, down-to-earth, friendly, romantic, funny, 45 year old (looks younger), 5'10", black hair, hazel eyes, 175#, interested in meeting while or Latin male for dating, friendship, and maybe more! (HIV- and hairy a plus!) S 4925.

**Long Haired Cock Sucker**  
Affectionate GWM, 43, "Bear", has intense lust for mutual mane grabbing. I'm eager to stiffen pipe, swell confidence, & like erupting man-seed with load-drenched bearded smile. Clean/shber. S 4926.

**Slim Gdiking Hit Retired Guy**  
Mustache, crewcut, 5'9", 150#, in good shape, versatile, HIV- seeks similar slim, 50+, facial hair guy. Short, small dick OK. Smoke OK. Safe only! S 4927.

**ISO Fit Distinguished Dad/Exec**  
Mature, intelligent, masculine, classy, sincere, very handsome, healthy, HIV+, quality GBM, 34, 5'9", 145#, ISO larger, fit, masculine, distinguished GWM, 40-50. Dad type/sex for high quality LTR. Sincerely only. S 4928.

**Looking For Love**  
Goodlooking GWM, 39, 6', 180#, & HIV+, is seeking love. I have dark hair, & a mustache. I also have blue eyes, & smooth body. All nationalities welcome between 25-40 yrs. old. S 4959.

**Attractive Latino**  
Goodlooking Latino, 31, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, looking for GWM for friendship or maybe more. Me: like to go out for dinner, go to movies, travel. Call me. S 5006.

**Certified Bottom & Certified Top**  
Attractive GWM, 38 yrs, 5'10 1/2", 135#, auburn/blue. Mustache, slim & semi-smooth, HIV. ISO LTR with masculine, muscular gay man of any race w/facial hair & also HIV. Civic Center or Tenderloin area only. S 5007.

**Basics**  
I am a HIV+ top, 5'8", 135 lbs, brn/hazel, mustache. Are you a HIV+ bottom, 6'2", 175 lbs, mustache or similar? Are passion and integrity important to you, too? If so, call me, we should meet. S 5008.

**Boy Wanted**  
Boy, 18-40, in Sonoma co. to teach me to be your dad your way. UB slim, sincere, oral. Me: 5'10", brnl, 120#, hung, very oral. Let's talk. S 5009.

**Top-Looking Bottom Seeks**  
Bottom-looking top, I'm 6'2", 270#, hairy-chested, bearded, brown/hazel. Excited by too-thin, blonde or red-headed, smooth, boyish types. Needs a plus! S 5010.

**My Fat, Hairy Ass**  
Needs an overweight conversationalist exercise companion. Let's walk & talk all over the city—burning calories & forming a friendship. S 5011.

**Grampa's Boy**  
W/M, 30, 5'10", 150#, looking for single W/M age 58-70, bald, gray, slender, non smoker, must be clean, good natured. Intelligence + + +. S 5012.

**Glam-Sexual**  
Cute like me. Late 30's, drk blond, private bod, 5'10", Hollywood fit, very oral. Tell me what you look like. S 5013.

**Tall Texans Seek Asian Third**  
Attractive GWC, HIV-, 40's, seeking attractive Asian third for regular hot times, possible LTR. We're passionate, loving & sincere. You be too. S 5014.

**HIV+ Bottom ISO HIV+ Top For DTNG & poss. LTR.** GWM, HIV+, bottom, 42, 6', 180#, bald, buzzcut, hzl, gldg, msc., gym toned, sensitive, romantic. Enjoy working out, photography, movies, reading. S 5015.

**Companion Wanted...**  
By English gentleman. A "Doctor Watson" type, for discussions, outings etc. very respectable. I am mid-aged, dominant, intellectual. S 5016.

**Stats And Facts**  
Professional GWM, 40 something, b/bl, 5'10", 160#, HIV-, ND/NS, stable and ready for LTR, seeks similar, age 35-45, for romance and adventure! S 5017.

**I'm Mr. Right (But For Whom?)**  
Well ed. & well endowed, 6', 175#, 40, in EB. Enjoy outdoors, music & a bunch of other stuff. I think I'm pretty intel. w/sense of humor. I know I'm a top. S 5018.

**Seek African-American**  
Goodlooking muscular clean cut GAM, 34, 5'9", 172#, seeks similar (or larger) African-American male, 25-40, for friendship, fun, etc. S 5019.

**God-Like, Magical Enchanting**  
Me: 21 yo, W/M, 140 lbs, br/bl, very good-looking, attractive, slim-build, affectionate, warm, creative, empathic. You: 20's, 30's, W/M, model-caliber looks, muscular, masculine, strong, dominant/top, confident, looking for deep intimacy with another guy. S 5020.

**I Had A Dream Of You...**  
Me: 37, 5'11", 155#, handsome, into life, most everything. Looking for my dream in life. Call for details. Oh, how your overalls cling to your sweaty hip. S 5021.

**Snuggle Buddy Wanted**  
GWM, 38, 6', 165 lbs., Italian/German, HIV+, brwn/hazel, goatee seeks some nurturing and cuddling with a masculine, affectionate, tall, lean, Caucasian. S 5022.

**Older Heavyset Seeks Younger**  
GWM seeks GAM for friendship poss. relationship. Must be 18-24, skinnysmooth, no facial hair, no taller than 5'9". I am 30, 5'9", 232#, hairy. S 5023.

**N. Bay Artist Seeks Partner**  
I'm tall, cute, independent, sweet, tough, confident, unaffected, romantic, humanitarian & a very horny bottom HIV+. UB similar top, hairy, butch, horny. A Bay Area traveler. Let's explore romance together! S 5024.

**All American Boy**  
GAM, 26, 5'10", 155#. Looking for a man, 23-35, any race, active, clean cut, tone, into adventure and sensual experiences. A versatile top with an expressive mind. S 5025.

**ABC Of Family Values:**  
Our family relationship begins as I (A) suck your dick so well that you (B) shoot your heaviest cream, which I (C) swallow as Holy Communion, making you a living part of me! S 5026.

**Handsome Athletic Friendly**  
Smooth Asian male is interested in receiving strong, extended, sensual, full body oil massages from experienced massage persons on a regular basis. All replies will be answered. S 5027.

**Silk And Nylons**  
Horny GBM Daddy ISO GWM bottom in panties, panty-hose etc. UB 50yr+, bottom in bed & equal partner out. Me: 40's & hung. We: enjoy role playing. S 5028.

**Black Man Short Natural Dreads**  
Black, HIV-, 160 #, 6'1", 40, seeks friends. I'm a musician, master gardener, & a music teacher. NS/ND/ND. I'm a vegetarian. I am into spiritual practices & simple living. I live in a small cabin in Mendocino county & visit SF often. Not looking for sex buddy. S 5029.

**Handsome Muscular Italian**  
38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. S 5065.

**Attractive Latino 25**  
I'm 5'7", 165#, college educated, humorous, my only fault I'm HIV+. Seeking generous GWM to enjoy quality of life. I like travel, reading, shopping, art, philosophy and wonderful things. Be honest, healthy, HIV-, not fat. S 5067.

**White Collar Sks Blue Collar**  
Rough and tough with heart of gold. Masculine? Hairy? Hung? Dominate? Facial hair? Are you looking for 5'10", 170#, brn/hzl, 35, goatee; sexy, sweet, GWM? Home, cooking, sex, friends & more! LTR. S 5068.



**Need A New Boyfriend?**

WM, 52 (looks 30's), 5'11", 155#, clean shaven, NS/ND, HIV-, looking for AM, 25-35, short, slim, for long term monogamous relationship. Like 60's-80's music, theater, dining, travel, scuba, photography, movies, dancing, cats. Affectionate, loyal, marriage-minded. Outstanding opportunity for the right person. S 5069.

**HIV+ Total Top Wanted**

East Bay Concord area bottom, HIV+, 34, 6', 185#, blonde, blue, kind handsome, needs big brother/dad type boyfriend. LTR with Virgo or Capricorn. Mustached LTR or darker A+. S 5070.

**Gdlik Exec. Type**

50 y/o GWM, 5'10", 190#, healthy, pos, hung, uncult, ISO masc. hot man oral expert & Bears A+. Call for more! S 5073.

**HIV+ Hunks**

Come meet interesting, intelligent, attractive, HIV+ gay men at our body positive parties & social events. All types of men. Find friends, romance or both. S 5074.

**Seeking Asian Top Mostly**

GWM seeks healthy dependable Asian stud who spans perspicacity & is com-d crazy. Caring while perpetually & eternally horny. Tends to be humorous & witty too. S 5109.

**Seeking Adrenaline Soulmate**

5'9", 145#, br/bl, NS/ND, hike, bike, gym, martial arts—other arts, backpack, exotic, travel, looking for intimate companion, preferably with internationalist perspective, trim, fit, no beards or mustaches. S 5110.

**I Miss Loving Someone**

AIDS widower, would like to start a fresh beginning. 36yo, Filipino, HIV-, straight acting, non-materialistic, seeking GWM, 40-50 y/o, for dating—leading to monogamous LTR. S 5111.

**I'm A GWM CHP Officer**

Looking to meet other CHP & police officers for discreet fun times. I'm 34, HIV-, 6'1", 210 lbs. I like tall men under 45 & HIV+. S 5112.

**Clean Cut All American Guy**

Seeks monogamous relationship. Me: 31, 5'8", 160, muscular, lightly hairy, firm body, brn/bl, cute face, HIV-, professional. You: similar GWM/GLM, versatile, stable. S 5113.

**East Bay Fun**

Attractive, very light BM, 6'2", 195#, 45, athletic, educated seeks Asian or Latino buddy for hot tender happenings. S 5114.

**Seeking Oneship**

Handsome 32 yo, seeks 25-40 yo master for long-term oneship. I am very loyal & will serve you well. I'm 34, HIV-, 6'1", 210 lbs. I like tall men under 45 & HIV+. S 5115.

**Hot Latin Bottom**

Seek tops, any race. AM HIV-, 5'8", 155, slender, mature, nicely stocked between legs, smooth tight ass. Can be top with Asians. S 5116.

**Explore Nature With Me**

Cute, curly, blonde, blue eyed, boy-man. Seeks: handsome, sexy, bear with a love of nature, for outdoor exploring & adventure. S 5117.

**Life Partner/Soulmate Sought**

Spiritual Sagittarius Dutch man, 41, trim, fit, fun, loves nature, nurture, cuddling, authenticity & kindness. Seeks deep meaningful union for life's journey Libra a plus. S 5118.

**GWM ISO Partner**

38, 190, brn/gm, must/bd. Well read, prof. stable. Likes: music, theater, movies, museums, parks, motoring. Seeking: gentle male, 25-40, into, must/bd, bearish, 150-210#, not overly touchy or femme. Want relationship not sex buddy. S 5119.

**Sex Buddy & Maybe More**

GWM, 36, attractive, Italian. Looking for tall, dark, hunky man with a big round butt who like men shorter, compact, slim & well-toned for dating, sex & maybe more. S 5120.

**Sex Is Important But Not Enuf**

To make me want to spend my time with someone. Intelligent, professional top with sense of humor and varied interests, 40, 6', 175#, good shape. Ready for relationship. S 5121.

**I Do Love To Meet A GWM**

For friend & open to LTR, slender or, w/ht proportionate, NS/ND, HIV-, healthy, enjoy fun quality time, honest, sense of humor. GAM, warm affectionate, caring. I do enjoy being top. S 5122.

**Sports Lvr And Outdoorsman Wtd**

I love sports, country music, Wranglers, cowboy boots & fishing. Looking for similar friends & playmates. Sex is fun too. I'm tall, thin, hairy, bearded. Let's go to a game. S 5123.

**Dark Sexy Handsome Guy**

33 y/o, GWM, 180 lbs, HIV-, seeks same. I'm new to SF with a variety of interests, you should be masculine, 25-40, and together. No drugs or feds please. S 5124.

**New To City**

Masculine, gentle, 37, WM, 6', 175#, seeks compatible new friends & eventual monogamous romance. Interests: exploring SF, volunteering, being a great friend, coffee-housing, having fun, keeping fit. S 5125.

**SEEKING ADVENTURE****Obedient Top Boy**

Order me to kiss, hug, massage, and I'll obey. You brains out! Obedient sexy top boy, 34, seeks handsome bottom, 18-41, for tons of fun. Collar, leash, restraints available. S 4929.

**Your Secret Desire Is**

To use your ass & mouth to serve a dark, handsome Asian/Hawaiian Prince, 35, with defined muscular body. He loves to pin you down & ride you with unrivaled passion. He might even tie you up. S 4930.

**Latin Top Man Into Hot Sex**

Still very sensitive. Seeks other Latin, whities, middle Eastern & blacks for fun & possible LTR. If you like foreign films, dining out, classical to Salsa music, pls call. Bilingual A+. S 4931.

**Nicaraguan Needs Love**

I'm 30, 5'6", 150#, with smooth body. I have black hair, & mustache. I like walking Castro in my underwear. I'm seeking attractive white men between 30-45. I'm an Edge regular. S 4932.

**Santa Rosa Bi WM 50+ Pierced**

Nipples shaved, pierced gentles, wants kink partner any age, handsome, my place. SM/dk OK. Let's get nude watch videos & 69. S 4933.

**Tough Cowboy Wanted**

To rope & tan the hide of this bl/r, fit, sexy young boy. UB: mas, fit, sexy, firm, handsome. Pluses—tight wranglers/Levis, boots, belts, western wear, tough talk. Rope, whip & discipline this hot young boy. S 4934.

**Slave For A Day**

And possibly many other days if accepted. Must be willing to serve with devotion, eager to expand limits. Me: 35, hung, in shape. S 4935.

**Handsome Horny Hot Homo**

Seeks others into short hair, uniforms, leather, Levis, J-straps, stashes, goates, shaved, nice asses, 69, rimming, sucking, no size hang ups. I'm HIV-. You? I'm discrete & experienced. S 4936.

**East Bay Pleaser Satisfies You**

Love to fuck? Want practice? Let's really enjoy it! Slim, Oakland WM, 40, talented mouth & ass, craves safe, hot, fun guys. Locals preferred, but for great sex anything possible. S 4937.

**Pec Overdrive**

Hard-muscled, masculine WM, 40, 6', 190#, HIV-, solid pecs, aching nipples. Seeks short, clean-cut, shy, buffed buddy with pec/nip fixation, hungry lips, for heart to heart encounter. S 4938.

**SF Over 50 WM Gummer Wanted**

48, WM, 5'10", 165 lbs, med bld, br/bl, mas, smoker, HIV-, 7' X 5'12" cut cock ringed male, kicks back for horny deep throater. I will come to your service only. S 4939.

**Standing, Does Your Boner Arc**

Toward the floor? Circumcised? Extra-thick? (all of the above)—Drool! If so, I want you—deeply! Me: 6'4", 300 lbs, W 41, HIV-, healthy. You: slender/athletic, WLB, healthy & horny. Don't delay, call today. S 4940.

**Hot Piece Of Muscle Ass Wanted**

Dominate, muscular, fuck tight, versatile, 37, 6'1", 185#, seeks boy/men, 20-38, w/muscular non-fat butts & muscular waists who love an 8" dick up their ass. S 4941.

**ISO: Hot Top/Wilthy Mouth & Gd Imagination for obscene AM talk,**

maybe more... Big dicks, balls, loads, uncuts, man smells, spanking, light bondage. WS, All +s. GWM, 37, 5'5", 145#, attractive, well-built, adventurous bottom. S 4942.

**Cock Worship & Play**

Let me worship! Let me lick it, stroke it, suck it. Play w/your balls & watch you shoot! You can do the same w/issing for a warm, fun discreet time w/dk afternoons. Me: 40's, nice, trim, HIV- friendly. S 4943.

**Got Foreskin? Wkday Playtime**

Let me pull it, stretch it, put my tongue or lubed finger inside & circle your cock-head. Move your skin up & down your shaft for sensual UO, kissing, exploring hands. You can play w/my cut cock. Smooth, trim, HIV-, 40's, discreet. Wkday play. S 4944.

**You're Gettin' My Belt On Your**

Ass. Rough butt spankings for bad boys. Hard paddle & strap. I'm 38, tall, muscular, HIV-, fantasies? You know you need it. All calls returned. S 4945.

**Dick Suckers/Cum Eaters**

HIV+, healthy, masculine & hot. 30's to 50's for mutual or non-reciprocal oral hedonism. Prefer U/C. E. Bay only. Leave description. Race/weight unimportant. S 4946.

**Expert Cocksucker**

Senior GWM, 5'7", 130#, begs to worship mas, verbal topman, over 40, wst proportion. Cauc or Asian. S 4947.

**No Gag Reflex—I Swear!**

Zone out for comprehensive oral relief from this GWM with no gag reflex & hyper salivary throat. Other particulars: 6'170#/40's-challenged, big-grinned, big-hearted & fairly big-brained nice fella. And welcome back returnees! S 4956.

**A1 Oral Service Delivered**

SF GWM, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV-. S 5030.

**Seeking Low Hanging Balls**

I'm turned on by low hanging balls in a ball stretcher. I'll orally service you and/or you can fuck me. Piercings a plus. HIV+ OK. S 5031.

**Black East Bay Top Man, Musky**

With Texas size equipment enjoys husky Hispanic & body builder bottoms. Availability, sincerity and discretion guaranteed. Mustache essential. Direct phone # please. S 5032.

**GWM 6'2", 170#, 8 1/2" HIV+**

Vers. bottom seeks GWM/GLM for hot sex & dating. Leave a message & I'll get back to you. S 5033.

**Wanted: Big Firm Butt**

Verastile, 5'11", well-built, hung big needs Cau men, 20-30's, well built w/big hairy bubble butt to eat & fuck. S 5034.

**Be Happy And Surprise**

HIV-, handsome, GWM, 5'9", 163#, med 40's, seeks GWM, 40-65, with a big thick dick that enjoys oral service for hours. Also you'll be in for a surprise too! S 5035.

**Bubble Butt Pussy Boy**

Seeking top Daddy/big brother for hot times. Boy is 37, 5'7", 135#, mustache, goatee, shaved head & tattoos. S 5036.

**Bulch Hungry Santa Rosa Bottom**

Deep throat expert, hairy hole. I'm 6'1", 33, 190#, healthy HIV+, must/bd, fat cock/balls, very masculine. Seeks in shape, hung 8", butch tops. Bears A+. S 5037.

**Wntd: Handsome HIV+ Men/Boys**

Xtra handsome man, 30's/5'10", 165#, br/bl, smooth, clean shw, masculine, oral, frisky ISO hot HIV+ man/boys for oral release. S 5038.

**Let's Get It On**

Blk daddy top, 20s, 48, into submissives 35+ w/mt & Lin bottom. If you please, aroma, massage please. Horny-sensuous-experienced. S 5039.

**Tantric Shaman**

Will train apprentice (prefer 18-32, before Saturn returns to 40 considered) in exchange for cooking and cleaning etc. at occasional weekend retreats or live in, rustic country cabin. S 5040.

**Dominant Man 35**

Seeking submissive house slave for regular use & abuse. Age, looks unimport. Must have strong desire to please. S 5041.

**Do You Love To Give Head?**

Looking for guys who really like giving head. I'm GWM, 49 and very appreciative. Leave phone # age/race. Not important. S 5042.

**Identify With This?**

Insatiable. Carnality. Crave. Desire. Passion. Urged. Stated. Eroticism. Satisfy. Full. Am. Wh. Cat. Linn. Yearn. Hungry to get off by a hot Italian? Call me now. S 5043.

**Daytime Action Downtown Hotel**

Drop by and drop your pants. You won't be disappointed. Visiting SF 2/28-3/5. S 5044.

**6'5" Ifish German Daddy**

Seeks synergy with goals oriented boy who does science & likes the outdoors. Please be original, very smart, cute, & a lover of the ironic. S 5045.

**Masc Gam Top ISO GWM BB**

Massage and body worship for buffed jockstrapped bodybuilder daddies, coaches and jocks. Show off your hard work for coach/masseur. S 5046.

**I Am A BM 38**

6'1", 195#, looking for someone 18-50 for fun. Must be hung 9" or more. I want to BJ you. S 5047.

**ISO Rare Breed Black Bear**

Versatile GWM, 5'1, 6'2", 240#, stache, wants to play with husky black men. Good kisser, tit & ass play A+. S 5048.

**Afternoon Sex Buddy Wanted**

Ass massage, Erotic spanking. Me: top, GWM, 46, 6'5", 250 lbs, heavy build, mustache, hairy chest/stomach. You: at least, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth/moderate body hair, nice buns. S 5049.

**Beginner Needs Be FF**

WM, HIV-, 115#, 5'2", brn/bl. Very, very, light little, hairy ass. Wants to be probed all the way! Slow & easy. Also BT too. I'm looking for an expert on a regular basis. I also love to suck big cocks. That excite me. Let's talk soon. S 5050.

**Hot/Pas**

WM, 37, muscular, hot, bubble butt, ISO, HIV+, fitness minded man for hot sex. Call ad for specs. S 5051.

**Eat & Fuck My Muscle Butt**

Enthusiastic bottom/versatile has deep throat & smooth tight, bubble butt for your pleasure. 34/54", 150#, muscular, goatee, buzzcut. Seeking in shape, GWM/GLM, 25-40, stache. Thick cock a plus. S 5071.

**Hey Longhair Dude!**

We see each other around town & wonder if we're straight. Wonder no more. Hot, masculine, longhair, seeks same. Let's do it S 5126.

**Butthole Rocks...**

With your pounding fists—goodlooking man w/fresh white fests seeks man with a beat—loud and sensuous preferred. S 5127.

**ISO Hot Adven Top W/exceptnl**

Endowment that makes my cock rock hard & kinky, provocative ideas that stir my balls. GWM, 37, 5'5", 145#, attractive, well-built, hungry, adventurous bottom. Uncut, big balls/loads pluses. S 5128.

**Cosmopolitan G8M**

24, needs 30 & 40 something's GM who are 6' tall & tops to spend pleasurable time with a cute bottom. S 5129.

**Grumpy Old Uncut Men**

Let this 45, GWM, HIV+, put a week long smile on your face. Any race, 7" or better men of color encouraged. S 5130.

**Just Shut-Up & Ride!**

WM, 32, 5'10", 190 lbs, blonde, blue-eyed, muscle hunk/likes for goodlooking, masculine men to come over and pump me full of squirt. Call anytime, even late nite. S 5131.

**Hot Nasty Boys Only**

For long intense sessions of butt play. UB: 25-35 y/o, GWM/GLM, clean shaven, good shape, like getting it. Me: GWM, 5'6", 140#, hot top, 40 y/o. Always hard. S 5132.

**Mature WM Sks WM 65 Or Older**

To instruct this straight male hot to suck your cock. As your on call oral slave. Perform until your rock hard then shooting your hot load on my face. S 5133.

**Built Pig Bottom**

Looking for in-shape guys who love to fuck. Me: 38, 5'11", 195#, 46" chest, 33" waist. Hungry mouth, hungry ass. Ready for you & your friends. S 5134.

**Round Black Bubble Butt**

For massage, well-hung, black & Latino top guys. I'll service you from head to toe. Prefer stocky. I'm 31, 5'11", 200#, ready & willing! E. Bay welcome. S 5135.

**Horny?**

Late night sex. Wanna get off? Call wkday & pump off a load. S 5136.

**Photographer**

Needs exhibitionists. name the place. Your fantasy on film. (Couples or Singles OK). S 5137.

**Seeking College Athletes 18-30**

WM, smooth, for complimentary full body massage. In East Bay—evenings & week-ends. S 5138.

**Asian Men**

GWM, 41, desires oriental men. Ages 21-60, for sexual sessions. I have a deep throat & bottom for you. Filipino males also. S 5139.

**Wanna Fight Put It On**

GWM, HIV-, very hairy, bald, strong, 50, 5'10", 175#, wants wrestling, boxing, any type of combat, safe & erotic to ruff. Your place A+, but not necessary. S 5140.

**Russian River Raunch**

Sex party toy! Available for your sexual pleasure: Individually, couples, parties! Romantic & nasty! Leather, slings, bondage, shaving, WS. S 5141.

**HIV+ GWM Sks Reg Fuck Buddy**

(LTR possible) 41, 5'10", short brown hair, healthy. Into leather, boots, slings, hoods, etc. Like fucking, eating ass, FF, WS, etc./versatile. S 5142.

**FETISHES**

Hot Rim Job  
Does your hole protrude, got lots of lip on it. Let my long hot tongue work it good. You: in shape, 21-45. Me: hot, handsome, 5'11", 165#, 40. S 4948.

**Watersports**

GWM, 32, handsome, seeks uncult Asian, Latino, & white men, 25-35, for some wet fun. I love piss, cum, cheese, & smelly cocks. You, too? Then let's hook up! S 4949.

**Tie You Up & Tie Me Down**

Attractive GAM gym-toned, 35, 5'9", 150#. I'm seeking someone to explore S&M, bondage for erotic torture pleasure. You must be under 40, gym-toned, trim. Let's talk soon. S 4950.

**Boot Licker!! Sneaker Sniffer!!**

Toe sucker! Mature Obedient, deep throat expert will kneel to worship & service well hung men who know what they want. S 4951.

**Man W/Tie Ring Sks Foot Partner**

Lifelong excitement looking at/fantasticizing about men's barefeet. Masculine, good-looking East Bay GWM, 5'9", 140#, tan, moderately hairy, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massage/barefeet, safe. J/O. Further information possible. S 4952.

**Daytime Asshole Eater**

"Get your asshole eaten by a pro." S 4953.

**Duch!**

Spank me, tie me up, jack me off slowly while looking into my eyes. Sexy boy, 30, 5'8", 130#, seeks take charge man. S 4954.

**Have Cam Corder**

Looking for: guys into being on film for private collection. You get a copy. Tops/Bottoms—Leather, bondage-FFB big dicks, butt eater, sound receiver. S 5052.

**Have A Foot Or Leg Injury?**

Are you in a cast, brace, bandages, wheelchair or crutches? Or just have big swollen feet. Age unimportant. Prefer white/Latino. Me: Asian, 23, 5'8, 158#, attractive workout. S 5053.

**WM Teddy Bear Sks Dom. BM**

I need spanking, piss, humiliation, and obedience training from a trustworthy, circumcised BM (any weight/endowment size) longing to be served by a part-time WM slaveboy. No experience necessary. S 5054.

**Xperienced Vac-Pumper Meat-Up**

Hot, 39, 180#, 6', hung, bearded, masculine pumper looking for hung masculine, experienced pump buddies into long, sleazy, sweaty pumping, jackoff and mega-huge cock, ball & tit play. Be experienced! S 5055.

**Nipple Master\*\***

Service and training for GWM. Do you need yours worked? enlarged? pumped? tortured? Have great selection of tit toys. John. S 5056.

**Bondage**

Dominant, well hung male, 38, 5'10", 160#, 8" likes to tie up and use other in shape guys. Limits respected, discretion important. S 5072.</



# GAY comics

SUMMER  
1996  
#23  
WINNER  
GAY CREATORS LEAGUE  
BEST ANTHOLOGY

ANNE BURNETT  
CHRISTOPHER DOHERTY  
J.A. FLUDD  
ROBERTA GREGORY  
PAUL GUINAN  
ANDY HARTZELL  
DAVID KELLY  
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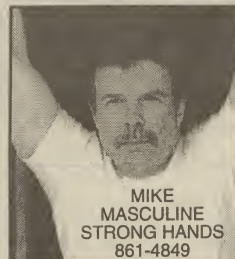
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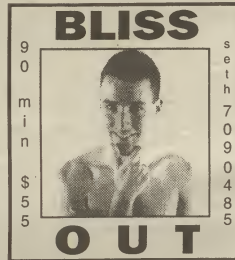
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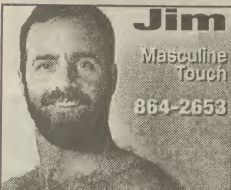
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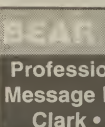


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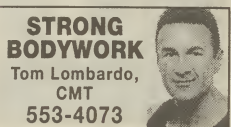


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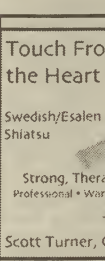
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Deep Tissue  
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Swedish  
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10AM-10PM



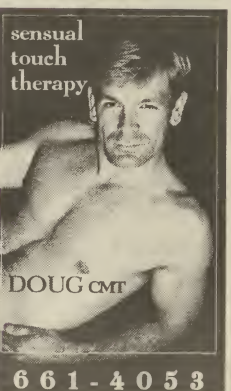
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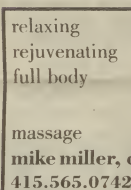
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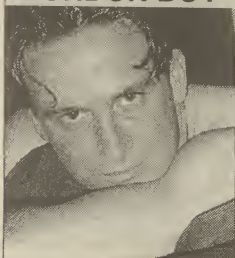
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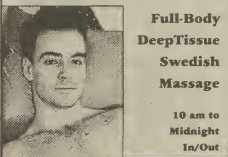
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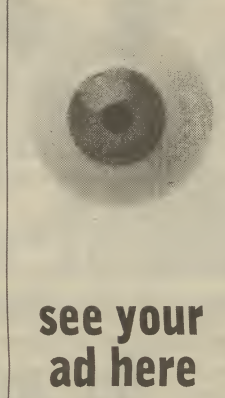
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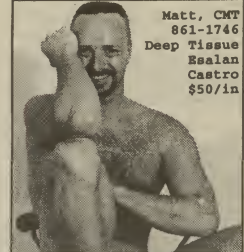
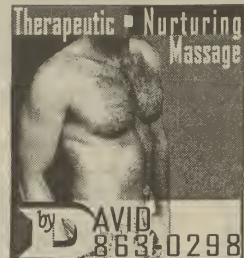
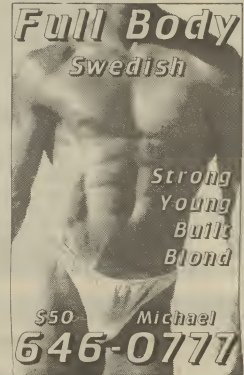
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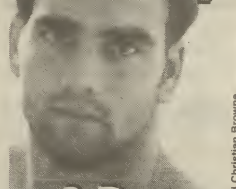
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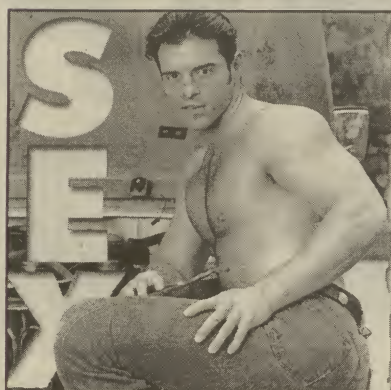
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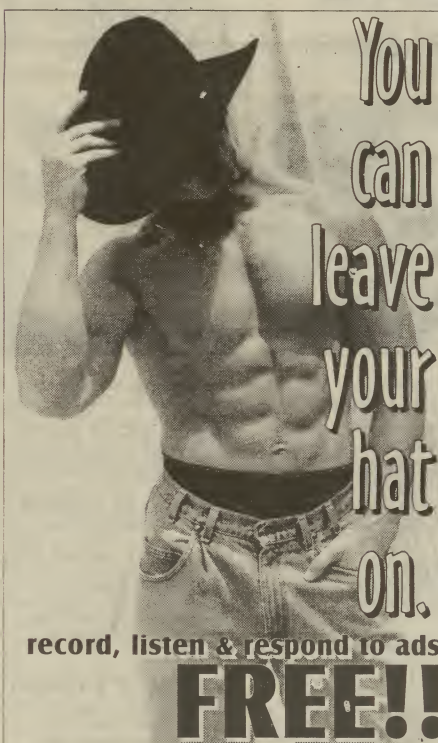
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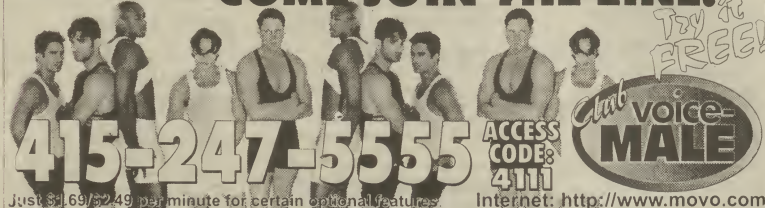
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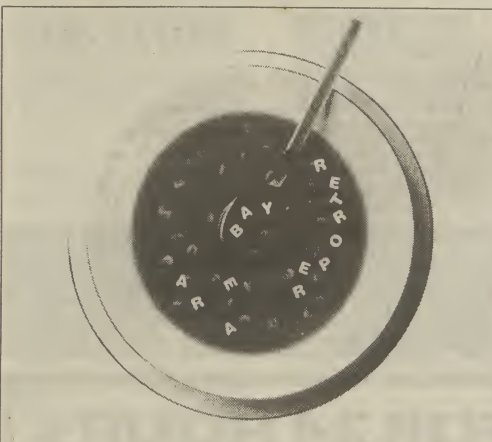
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5'7"X140#, smooth, muscle tone, friendly  
"LATIN LOVER"  
Aff'nie Prof (510) 883-8105/835-4521 E09Jock fantasy-football uniform, hot  
Wrestler, speedos Matt 552-7224 E09Hot Latin top 26, 155#, 30 W  
**TROPICAL EXTASY**5'7" UNCUT ATHLETIC BUILT  
1-800-577-7468 PIN 3583186 E09**HUNG CUTE BOY**5'9", 140 lbs. If you need some spice  
in your life give me a call I'm here to  
Cater to your needs.  
Paul pgr 1-415-791-1876 E09**MUSCLE BOTTOM**

6'2" 205 lbs vgl&amp;hard pgr 270-41525120 E09

XXXHUNGXXXTHICK STRETCHER  
Easy going topman. XXX videos Rough,  
raw, ready. Call anytime-Call Back  
Required. Anthony 415-431-MALE \$75 E09**EXTREMELY HANDSOME**  
**COLLEGE STUDENT**Masculine clean cut & yes versatile  
French/Italian, dk thick hair, full Lips  
very hot! Hung & tight Out Only  
Bradly 201-1319 E10**PISS ON YOU 638-4827**  
**NASTY ITLN TOP \$125** E10**55+ COMPANION**30yr old, unique, employed,  
"Construction" solid build  
Fun, handsome, sweet blond  
Seeks fun, supportive, nice  
Older guy. I am kinky! Jack  
PO Box 524, 11124 NE Halsey,  
PTD, OR. 97220 (503) 252-9619 E09**SLAVES TRAINED**38yo 6'1", 210# Pom Magazine Model  
Call Master Scott: (415) 790-0902 In/Out E10Tired of the rest now try me sexy  
Asian Boy smooth trim body 582-2889 E12

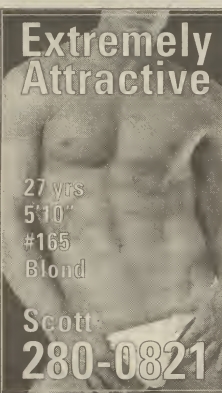
Masculine Black Top 273-1814 E13

Rough+Ready-Masculine+More...  
**SOCCER JACK**Defined abs, hairy legs, sexy shorts  
Attractive, well-endowed player  
Greg 764-6326 Eves/Weekends E09**BODYBUILDER 6'2"**

210 lbs Handsome Pgr 560-9447 Hard E09

**ORAL SLAVE**Hot Mouth, Deep Throat  
Golding Blo 5'11", 155#, 36, \$75  
Available Wkngts & Wkends  
Pgr 496-0156 E10Muscular 25 Y/O  
**HEARTTHROB**Jason-Ripped Abs, Massive Tool  
Sexy eyes & Lips. Very Foxy "Teen  
Girls Get Hot For Me & So Will You"  
\$120 In/\$140 Out 267-5906 VM E09**6'1" 190#**masculine  
muscular  
handsome  
hairy  
hung 9. E09

764-6280

**LATIN BOYS**

18-20 (415) 219-7331 E09

**AFFECTIONATE WARM**Chad 241-9381  
Youthful 5'8", 140 lbs., clean cut  
Smooth. For a session call me. E09Not suspicious nor malicious! Just Lov-  
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You Won't Say No To This!  
Call 208-9624 E1023yo Tightbuild, Hung, Versatile  
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Ron 752-3844 hm 741-5329 pgr E09**FRIENDLY****INTELLIGENT****ESCORT**

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**MODELS NEED PHOTOS??** E09**EAGER TO PLEASE**  
**SEXY MAN/BOY**23, 6', 180 lb, Russian Irish  
8" thick, Friendly, Versatile, Discreet  
Anytime Stephen 255-7136 E09**26YO LAT STUD UNCUT**  
8", 130#, 5'5", Smooth Grl Looks, Safe  
Steamy Flex • \$100 Franc Pgr 303-0887 E09

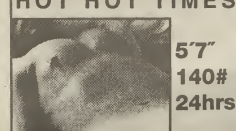
Foot Fetish? Size 10 1/2 Bpr 834-8170 E09

Forget Campus & Nob Hill, Porn Star  
**SEXY MATT CONVERSE**

Private J/O strip show 552-7224 E09

To Service or Be Served?  
**WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE**Hungry, Affectionate, 22  
Eric • 790-1172 • Out E09**LITTLE FIRE FOR HIRE**5'2", 112#, long blonde hair  
Strong, smooth, and spritely boy  
Mikey Out Only Pgr/VM 280-8049 E09**UNCUT SKINHEAD**  
**HUNG BIG & THICK!**Top, Mild to Xtreme. Most any scene  
**VM/PGR 800-807-0241** E09Masculine! Hot! Hard! In (dntn area) Out  
**UNCUT! 10" & THICK****303-6354 24 HRS:** E09**HOT COLLEGE BOY**  
**BLOND, SEXY, VERSATILE**23, nice, slender physique, hung Dave  
668-9053/376-3300 Pgr In & Out E09Tanner  
Young, Cute, Caring, Discreet.  
(415) 915-3250 E09**BOYS****WITH****BRAINS**

415-449-8378 E10

Sensual Msg. Escort  
Body/Foot Worship  
Discount for 2 Clients  
**346-7975 Kevin**  
**Asian Dream****HOT HOT TIMES**

253-9984 pager

**DOMINANT TOP**Attractive, aggressive, mature and  
Experienced. 38 y/o, 5'8", 155#,  
Boyish good looks • Expert, skilled  
Top, S&M, spanking, fisting, Master  
Brian 415-883-1663 Out. E09**TIGHT ASS**Hot Italian Bottom Boy  
5'10", 150, cinct, Br/Br  
Cute Face, Nice Ass  
Nick 24hrs 224-3436 pgr Out Only E09

Gives It • Takes It • See For Yourself

**STUDENT**Specializes in Male Pleasure  
Greg 764-6326 Be There! E09Hot&Handsome!In/Out(60day)dntrn/Un.Sq.  
**GORGEOUS 10X6 TOOL****24HRS: 560-7081** E09Adam 38, 6'4", 195#, bldn/blu, hairy  
Handsome, clean-cut, hung, masculine  
Day/Nite Page 207-8089 Visa/MC E09**BEST NEW THROAT/ASS**In Town! Versatile, Hot & ready to  
Work you over. 5'9", 150#, & built.  
Buzzcut/brown, hung/handsome. Dis-  
creet & Safe. Page (415) 449-8007 E09**HOT BLACK STUD**Huge & Beautiful "10" by 6 1/2 Ramo \$80  
(415) 255-7116-hm (415) 270-1598-pgr E13**CATHETERS • 241-0567** E09Dominant/Hot/Marine/Skinhead/Fantasies  
**USMC DRESSBLUES**32yo, 5'11", bl/blue, Flat-topped  
Stud Outrageous Playroom! Deviant  
Brain • • Hot! Karl 621-5016 E09

Hot! Masculine Guy. 30. Big Bone

**KICKS BACK****FOR ORAL SERVICE**  
\$60/in SOMA Days OK Mark 864-7811 E09**MUSCLE TOP**Hot Bodybuilder, 6'2", 200lb, 28yo  
Well hung, 17"A, 6"C, 32"W Very  
Goodlooking (408) 788-7508 Christian E10**HIRED MAN**Handsome Hung Versatile Tall Hairy  
Luke • 24 Hrs • Pgr 605-4013 Visa/MC E09Tall Slim Smooth Cute Blond Blu/Grm  
**SEXY FINE YOUNG MAN**

Free Charm &amp; Wit on Request 253-8600 E09

**KISSABLE SEXY**Cute Cuddle Boy, Smooth  
Body, Great Butt. Nice Toy,  
You'll Enjoy Troy 679-1058 E09**KINK TO COMFORT**Sweet -N- Sexy Brooklyn Boy Delivers  
5'7" 150# Hairy Well Endowed  
Joey (415) 270-4652 Out Only 24Hrs  
Seniors & Student Discounts E10Passionate Bodywork  
Full Body Massage By Tall Texan  
6'6", 195#, Nice bod beard 60/in 80/out  
Attractive Attentive Affectionate**WAYNE • 252-7443** E09

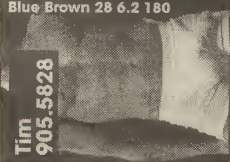


## PERSONALS

## MODELS/ESCORTS

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 Clean-cut • Sexy Quality  
 Hung Long & XXX Thick • 24 Hours  
 OPEN TO ALL FANTASIES  
**JAMES 415-861-SEXX \$90**

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 Video  
 We're looking for  
 hot, defined,  
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 Good pay!  
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**WE'RE MAKING STARS**  
 Salamander Studios is now  
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 We produce films intended for an  
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 you. Our casts are a racially  
 diverse, visually varied group. To  
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**Salamander Studios**  
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My Muscle Butt Your Face 626-RIDE

**BLOND AND 23**  
 For your pleasure...5'11", 165#  
 Toned muscles. All the Bay Area  
 Mark: Bpr (510) 429-4413 \$100 out  
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 5'7", 135 lbs, 24 yr Ph 558-9351

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 Exceptionally Handsome--No Lie!  
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 Friendly pgr 207-5315

**REAL MAN**  
 Tired of kids? Move up to a well  
 Hung, handsome, muscular stud who  
 Knows how. Pgr 207-6786

Kicks Back for Service • 24 Hours  
**10" X 6" UNCUT**  
 Big Fat Tool 487-9566 pgr 678-1005

**JOCK/ GREASEMONKEY**  
 25yo, 6', 170 lb, Stud  
 Rad Body  
 Abel 979-7026 Pager

**HOT JOCK**  
 San Jose  
 (408) 744-4537

**GORGEOUSOHIIOBOY**  
 24, 6ft, 175, Blond Hair; Blue Eyes  
 Smooth Chest, Well Endowed  
 Call Malcom • (415) 313-5612 • \$100  
 Friendly and Discreet

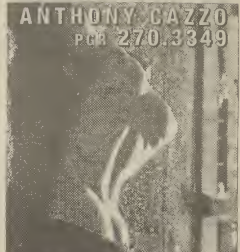
**SF HOTELS 24 HOURS**

**HUNG MUSCLE BOY**  
 25yo x-golkg w/a fat 9 1/2" tool Smth  
 Well defined body Call 280-2736

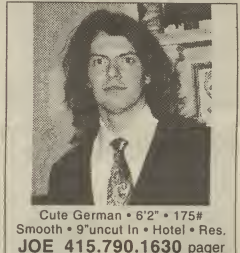
**EXOTIC & HANDSOME**  
 Very handsome, hazel eyes, great body  
 gorgeous butt & well endowed. Friendly &  
 versatile. Fulfill your fantasy 207-6117

**HARD CORE BODYBUILDER**  
 5'8", 220 lbs, It. Out Only  
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 19yo  
 goodlooking  
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**HOT GUY • ATHLETIC**  
**BIG UNCUT D\*\*K**  
**TOP OR BOTTOM**  
**HOTELS • HOMES**  
**PAGER • 487.6270**

  
 Cute German • 6'2" • 175#  
 Smooth • 9"uncut In • Hotel • Res.  
**JOE 415.790.1630 pager**

**LEATHER/SM/FANTASIES**  
 Tough dominant top, 38yo, 6'1", 210#,  
 7" uncut, blue eyes, flat top, mustache.  
 Into leather, SM, bondage, WS, CBT,  
 fantasy, beginner-heavy. Have equipment  
 Scott (415) 790-0902. In or Out calls

Distinguished Age 40  
 Handsome, Hung Eight and Thick  
 \$70 Dave 922-3924

**TORSO ADVOCATE**  
**PLAYGIRL MODEL**  
**MICHAELS ESCORT**  
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**BLACK GOLD**  
 200 lbs Very Muscular  
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21 Years Old 8 Inches Cut  
**BLOND BOY TOY**  
 Slender, sexy, smart, energetic  
 Fun for you! Sebastian 440-3983

**6'3" 220# FIREMAN**  
 Xtra masculine, xtra handsome & Muscular.  
 No disappointments (415) 679-3168

**9X6 24 HOURS**  
 Call: 775-4771 24 Hours

**HOSE DOWN**  
 Sensuous 36 y/o yellow hankie top-  
 Buzzed head, hairy chest, sexy  
 Eyes. Bryan (415) 605-1383

Fun Boy Eager To Please  
**HOT LEATHER BOY TOY**  
 28yo, 5'10", 145#, slim build,  
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 Next door. page Andy 708-5388 \$80

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 Smooth Outcalls Only 474-9665

**CZECH STUDENT HOT 19**  
 Good looking Good time & massage  
 24 Hours, \$120 an hour pg 313-1552

**ROUGH BLK TRADE 8"**  
 Wants2 force U2 your knees. To use  
 my thick blk manhood 30yo attract,  
 Muscle, 5'8" C41 W29 A16 Th24 No  
 Drug/Rushjob Verb/Domination OK  
 Safe 60 & up Out Robert 829-7595

**HOT TOUGH TOP**  
 Dominant Leatherman, SM, BD, WS,  
 CBT, Fetish, All Fantasies. 38yo, 6'1",  
 210#, Brown Hair, Blue Eyes,  
 Flattop, mustache, 7" uncut. Beginner  
 to Heavy. Have Equipment  
**Scott 415 790-0902 In/Out**

**In San Jose**  
**408-421-7163**  
  
**Gregory**

  
**use the real thing**

33, 5'7", 130, vrstl, kinky, smooth, 7" cut  
**HOT REDHEAD**  
 Affectionate, pgr 741-7061/H929-1803

**BLK STUD 21 YRS OLD**  
 Masc, built, hung, top, out calls  
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Clean-cut Grad Student,  
 5'10", 155, Brown/Blue,  
 Smooth, Lean, Muscular Body  
 Very Cute, Very Versatile.  
 Call Jason 24 hrs 541-5002

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 6'4", 40s, 195, 7.5X6, Van Dyke  
 Gives Intense Erotic Massage To  
 Naughty Boys, Student Discount \$35  
 In \$50 out Pgr 707-944-6575 Lv#  
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 Need a helping hand? Slow•Easy•Firm  
 I'm great with beginners thru advanced.  
 Give it up to Nikos 885-1471 Nob Hill

Jeff--Muscular Swimmer's Build  
**BASEBALL BICEPS**  
 Chisled chest, defined abs, broad  
 Shoulders. Sexy, handsome, hung top  
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**HUNGRY BUTT? 861-1671**  
 Hairy, very weel-built gym muscle Top,  
 experienced & equipped for all Kinds of  
 Man-to-Man buttplay, gloves To con-  
 doms. Ask about the special

Hot Puerto Rican New In Town  
**ANTONIO (415) 908-9867**

**YOUNG HUNK**  
 24 yr old Blk/Blue 6'3", 240 lb Mus-  
 cular Body. Handsome & Very Mas-  
 culine. 679-1684 Damion

**HUNK/BODYBUILDER**  
 SHY JEFF 997-7307 PGR

**HOT BLOODED BUDDY**  
 Hot Dominate top, sexy, extra thick!  
 Rock hard-throbbing man. avil 4 fun  
 Craig \$85 (415) 431-6253 Call 24 hrs

Spanking-Paddling-Discipline &  
 Butt Massage 773-9130 Kory-Yes!

Handsome Sexy  
**HOT ASIAN**  
 Tom Pager (415) 280-3735

## ITALIAN BODY

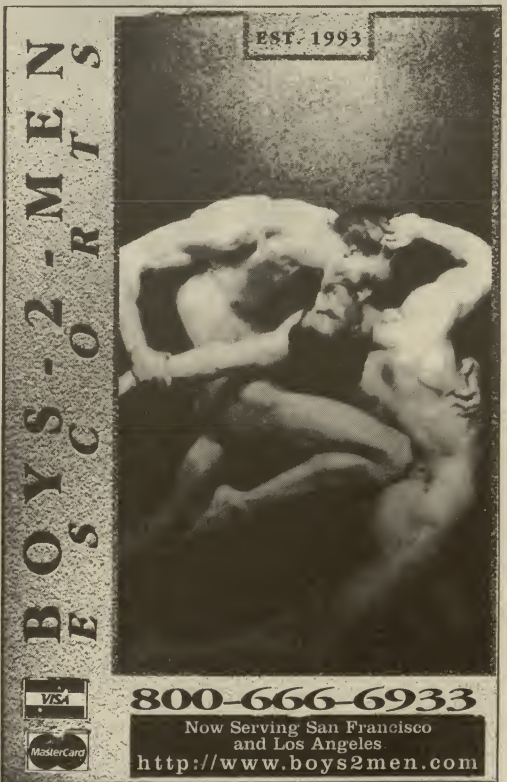
Body Builder, 230 Lbs.  
 6'1", 50" Ch, 20" A  
 25 Years Old  
 From Italy  
**207-9337**

**IF YOU LIKE 'EM HUNG**  
**THEN I'M THE ONE!**  
 Hot guy next door treats you right!  
 Br. Hair, Br. Eyed  
 Horsehung Top Studpoker. 24 Hrs.  
**Buddy \$85 (415) 861-7399**

  
**Release**  
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**Within You!**  
 Wild Top Boy  
 for Frenzied Fun  
 5' 9", 140lbs.  
 Smooth, 9" thick  
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 36 waist  
 13 feet  
 27 yrs  
 Masculine  
 Friendly  
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 Experienced, Most Scenes  
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